Sucking the Maritimes dry



ELIZABETH MCMILLAN

According to Statistics Canada, migration to Alberta almost doubled from 2005–06, up to 16.1 people per thousand. There are an estimated 100 new arrivals in Calgary each day. Estimates project that in order to maintain Alberta's current growth rate, 250 000 more people will be needed in the next five years. And where are all these people going to come from? The Atlantic provinces, largely.

For an increasing number of young workers on the East Coast, all roads lead to Alberta. In the past year, the Atlantic provinces have seen an exodus to Alberta of roughly 7000 people between the ages of 19–35. Forget the brain-drain southwards to the United States: people are moving "out west" at a staggering rate. And the shift west isn't expected to end anytime soon either.

Maritime transplants are bringing with them a lot more than distinctive accents or a taste for Alexander Keith's; they're helping support Alberta's booming economy—often at great personal expense. Take for instance the number of families who are split up when parents—men especially—leave to work for months at a time. When I flew home to Charlottetown at Christmas, the flight that arrived from Fort McMurray was full of Maritime voices. All anxious for familiar faces, they compared stories from the frontlines of the oil and gas industry. The man sitting next to me was going home for two weeks to meet his three-month-old daughter.

This heartbreaking reality is all too common for families on the East Coast. There's a human cost that is hard to account for in Alberta, where all you see is growth and healthy paycheques.

The man sitting next to me was going home for two weeks to meet his three-month-old daughter.

The economic contrast between east and west is overwhelming. After moving here last September, what I noticed most about the landscape wasn't the absence of picturesque ocean views, but rather the alarming amount of "Help Wanted" signs. While fast-food chains around Alberta announce double-digit wages for would-be burger-flippers, recent university graduates in Atlantic Canada can feel lucky to scrape by with the minimum wage—under $8 per hour in each province—but to many, that's the best they can hope for.

It's little wonder, then, that they're leaving home and building their lives elsewhere. Fort McMurray, home to 20 000 Newfoundlanders, is a prime example of the cultural displacement that's occurring. Dubbed "Little Newfoundland," this northern burg is the third-largest Newfoundland community in the world.

Laying down roots "back home" is risky when the stability of the local economy doesn't offer guarantees for future job prospects. An entire generation of Canadians is growing up realizing that home can't be home forever. Unfortunately, without motivated people to stick around and build opportunities, the demographic trend continues—there's no end in sight to the damaging cycle.

While Atlantic Canada is pumping out thousands of university and college graduates each year—Nova Scotia alone has 23 postsecondary institutions—many students pack up and leave right after graduation. As a result, there are few specialized workers, a higher rate of unemployment and a shrinking pool of labourers—specifically tradesmen—and everything from construction to heath care is affected.

This isn't to say that people aren't interested in moving back, either. When an advertising insert entitled "Coming Home" ran in CanWest papers last December, advisor Jean Nadeau received over 3000 inquiries about the 2600 advertised jobs in Nova Scotia alone. However, nostalgia doesn't pay the bills. With the cheaper cost of living comes a considerable wage decrease in many areas. Often, young professionals aren't willing to put up with the cut to their paycheque, even in exchange for an arguably higher quality of life.

In the future, I wouldn't mind settling down in an area where no one invests in condos because $500 000 gets you a four bedroom house on the waterfront, where you can buy lobsters off the wharf—and of course, let's not forget the fiddle music. Unfortunately for me, I might have to settle for two weeks vacation at the cottage instead.

Newfies: they're people too

It's time we gave Alberta's stepchildren a chance



KIRK ZEMBAL

With the consummation of another school year fast approaching, most of us are getting ready to trade sleeping in and the stress that comes with being a student for the early mornings and long blissful days of summer work. Most of us are relatively poor and therefore willing to take whatever job is highest paying—career goals be damned—and since most of us will be looking for work here in oil-rich Alberta, many of us will end up on a collision course that will put us in contact with that not-so-rare of breeds: the Newfie.

Known as Newfoundlanders officially, they represent the most persistent and easily identifiable Canadian regional stereotype by far. But don't get me wrong, I don't consider myself to be anti-Newfie by any stretch. On the contrary, there's far too much Newfie-bashing in Alberta. Especially in the oil patch or up Highway 63 in Little Newfoundland.

It's common out in the bush to hear phrases like, "Ah, we'll just get a Newfie to do it," or, "Looks like a Newf-job to me." The word "Newfie" is becoming synonymous with unskilled labourer—which, I'll concede, isn't helped by the continuous exodus of unskilled labourers from Newfoundland.

Seriously, anti-Newfitism is no laughing matter. Think about it: substitute any ethnic or religious in place of the Newfie and imagine the outrage that would ensue. We all laughed when last year an EPS cop was disciplined for using the N-word during an arrest, but such situations are only going to become even more of an issue in future years with the Newfie Diaspora likely continuing unabated.

Already, letters to Edmonton's major dailies often refer to Newfoundland simply as "that province," while local television stations invariably run human-interest stories of Newfoundlanders trying to "adapt" to Albertan life, as if they were from some other continent altogether. They may not have joined Canada until 1949—and I'm as puzzled as the next guy as to how they can work a reference to codfish into every conversation—but that doesn't make them any less Canadian than you and me.

The point is, it's considered politically incorrect—and in most cases illegal—to discriminate based on, well, pretty much anything—but with Newfies it's okay, because hey, they're Newfies. This is becoming an outright epidemic, and is slowly entrenching itself into the rest of Canada's cultural consciousness. Travellers to this country seeking the Canadian experience will often even have "meet a Newfie" on their to-do lists—right after "kiss a moose."

So if you do end up working with Newfies this summer, I urge you to stop with the all crude and insensitive jokes. If you're unable to restrain from indulging yourself—which, as I've just demonstrated, is damn near impossible—please do so with cod tongue firmly in cheek.

Students' Union Employment and Volunteer Opportunities

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Reports to Students' Council and oversees all electoral logistics. Must be familiar with election process and bylaws. Excellent project management skills are required to succeed in this position.

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For further information contact Catherine at ea@su.ualberta.ca or 492-4241

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GRAHAM LETTNER

As a young Albertan, I am naturally interested in where our province is going. And as one of the thousands of overconfident twentysomethings that populate our campus, I feel I have a part in shaping this direction as well.

Where our province is going to isn't destined by market forces, demographic factors or socio-economic trends. Sure, it would be foolish to discount the role these and other factors will play in guiding our provincial future. But it will be the *ideas* of Albertans that blaze a trail into the future.

The best of these ideas are those that address the toughest challenges that we face as a province, and those that set out plans for the most ambitious future. Encouragingly, Alberta isn't unfamiliar with ideas like these. Our province was once chock full of ideas people—the pioneers—who thought Alberta could become a great new home, and then made it happen.

It would be tempting to romanticize this Alberta of the past: the hardiness of the pioneers, their grit and determination, their sense of purpose. But this does them—and us—a disservice. This type of character can still be found and is needed today, while nostalgia only serves to relegate it to yesteryear. Romanticism also whitewashes the mistakes made by Albertans of history: the oppression of Aboriginal people, exploitation of foreign workers and government corruption, just to name a few.

But this pioneer mindset, updated with new ideas for the 21st century, is what could lead our province out of our now-infamous economic prosperity—one induced by a short-term highs, but which sets up the inevitable and exasperating economic bust.

The pioneer mindset isn't outdated or outmoded simply because our land is cleared, our cities are built and life is comfortable. On the contrary, it's just this type of easy-going attitude that makes us forget to be mindful—and indeed grateful—of the work of past Albertans, and leaves us ill-prepared for the challenges the future will bring.

A great voice of this "modern pioneer" thinking is Jim Gurnett, Executive Director of the Mennonite Centre for Newcomers. In his words, "The forest we have to clear for us as pioneers is this individualized 'pull yourself up by your bootstraps' mentality." This statement doesn't relegate pioneers to the history books, it urges them to see and understand—and then overcome—the new challenges of the Alberta today.

It strikes me as entirely possible that if us undergraduate and graduate students weren't so preoccupied with the "Alberta Advantage" we expect our university degrees to unlock for us, we could strain our collective intellect in an effort together to find solutions for the most important issues facing our province and chart a new and promising direction for our Albertan future. This doesn't mean foregoing work and careers: it means focusing our work and our careers to address the big issues of our day and not using them to insulate ourselves with luxuries we may soon be unable to afford.

No one person, and certainly not this rambling amateur, has the full stock of pioneering ideas that could shape an optimistic future for our province. But I'll bet the ideas in the heads of 35 000 intelligent students would be a good start—imagining our campus to be teeming with tens of thousands of pioneers is an awfully exciting perspective. More than 100 years after the first wave of pioneers shaped Alberta's future, it could be time for a second wave to create Alberta again.

THE BURLAP SACK

This sack-beating goes out to Frank Thomas' kids. Why? Because, as Thomas himself has shown us, they deserved it—don't listen to all these touchy-feely family-first critics who say they didn't.

In case you missed it, the Toronto Blue Jays organization is in hot water after running a television ad in which Thomas, the Jays' recently acquired designated hitter, lays the big hurt on one of his bratty kids with a pillow after they won't stop pillow-fighting on their bed. Some are calling it an innapropriate depiction of domestic violence—I say those no-good brats were up past their bedtime.

And besides, the kid hit his dad first—what did he expect? This is Frank Thomas we're talking about here: the guy's 6'5" and 275 lbs, with 487 career home runs. He turns on the light switch and there's drywall everywhere. So when he goes all JC Penny on a nine-year-old, you'd best believe someone's going flying.

The youngster seems to take a positive message away from the lesson as well—that is, his dad is Frank fucking Thomas, which is pretty rad when you think about it. He's up again in a matter of seconds, and with a look of admiration and awe—in other words, nothing that suggests internal bleeding.

However, there's still plenty room in the sack for all the naysayers as well. Only in this case, perhaps we should be using a pillowcase instead. Oh, and Mr Thomas will be doing the beating this time around, thank you very much.

ADAM GAUMONT

The Burlap Sack is a semi-regular feature where a person or group who needs to be put in a sack and beaten is ridiculed in print. No sack beatings are actually administered. Except when they are. Which is, admittedly, not very often. All we're saying is, just watch it, okay?

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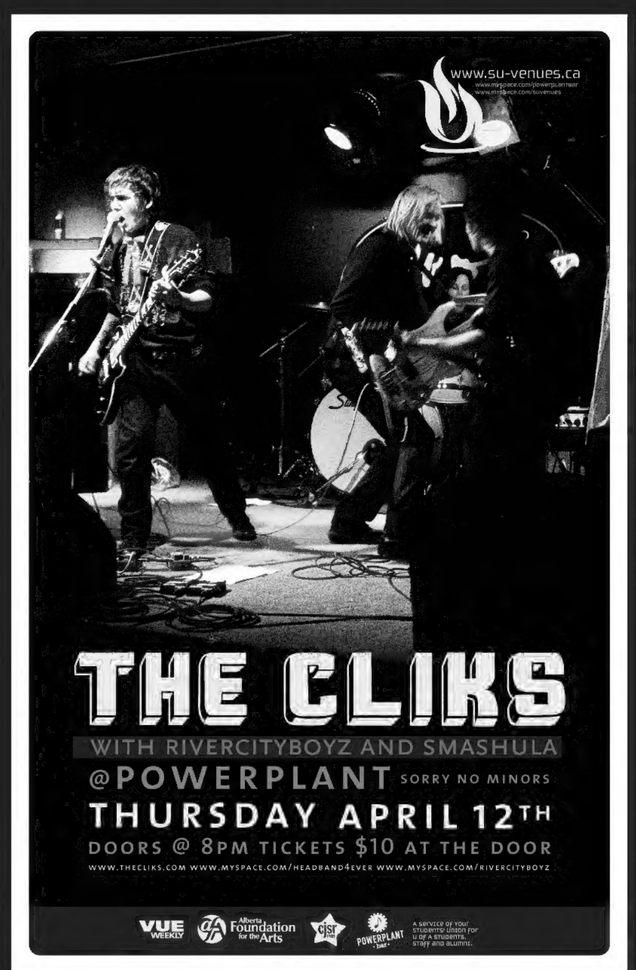
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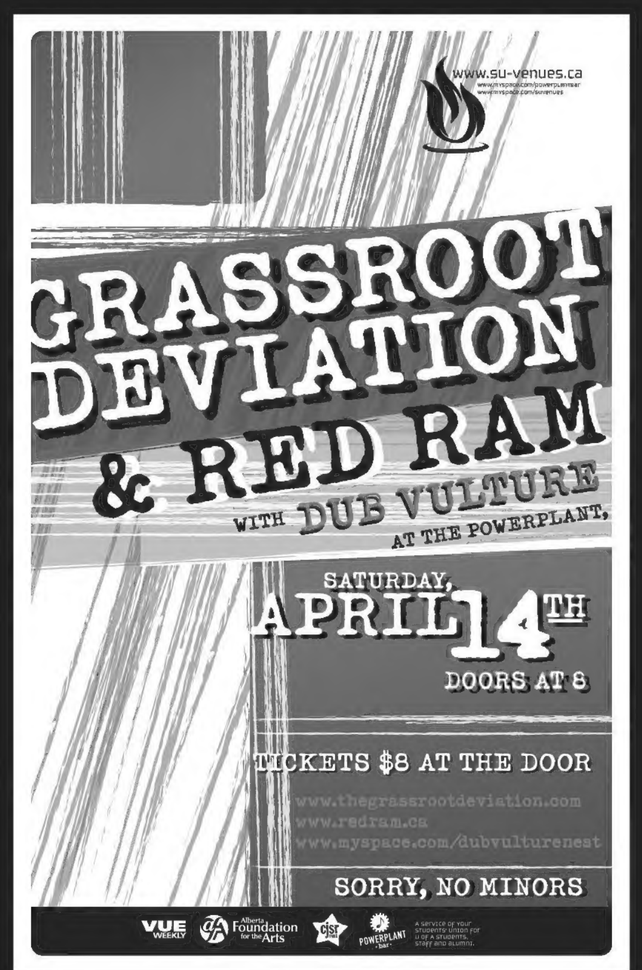


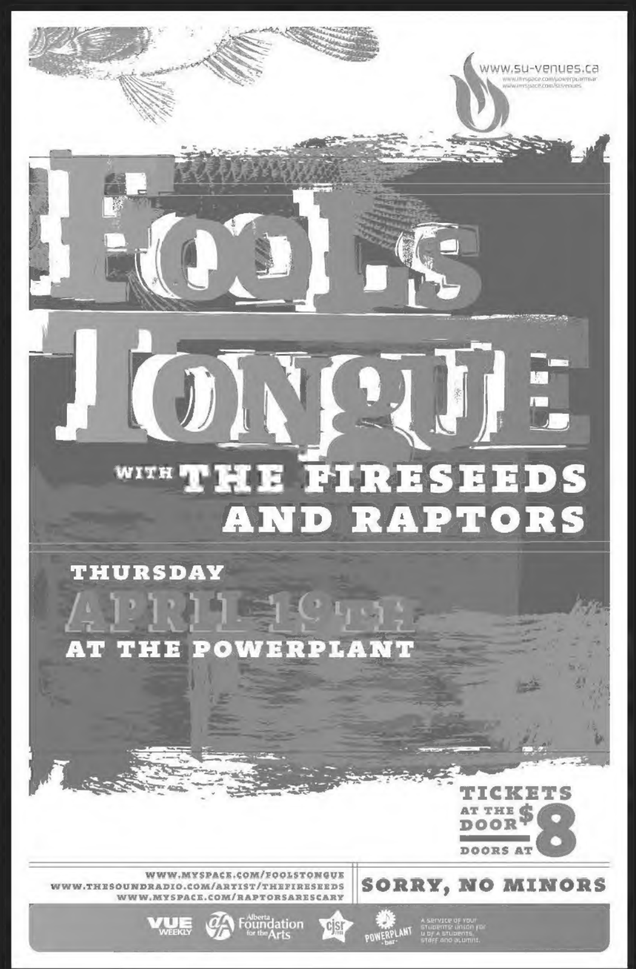
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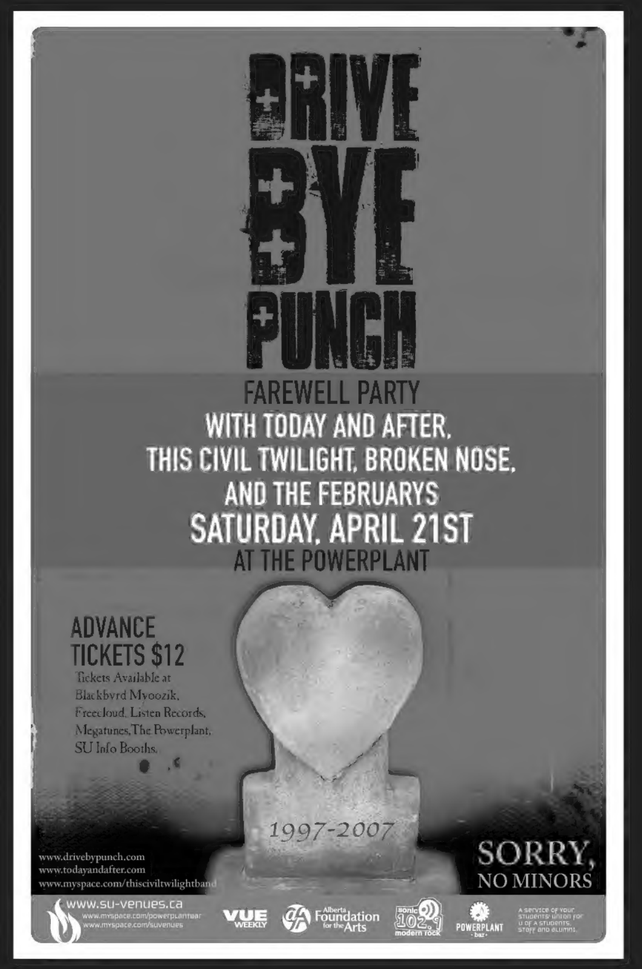


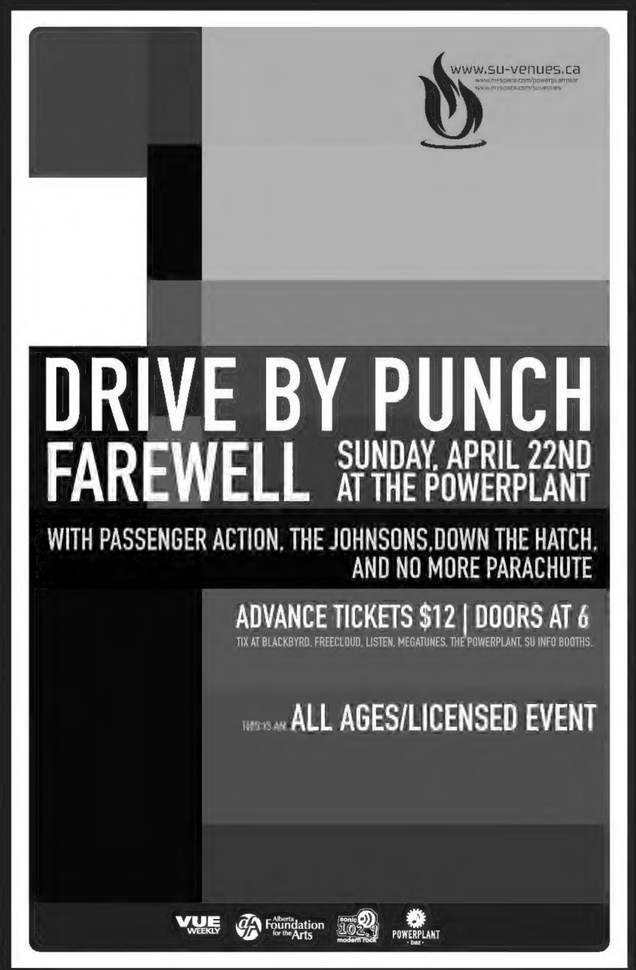


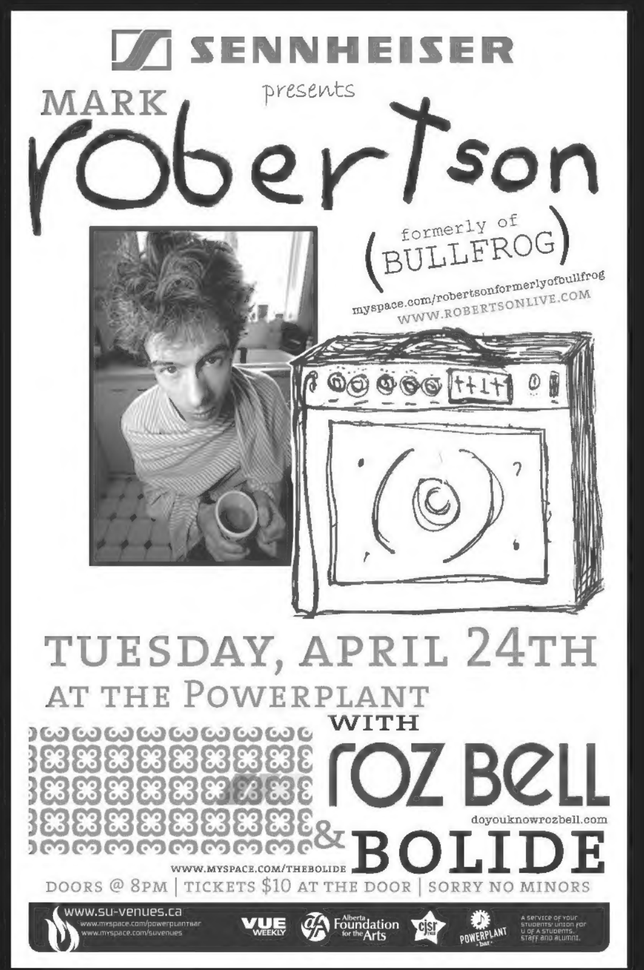














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Divine secrets of a U of A sisterhood

Despite what your older brother and his friends may have told you, sororities are more than just outdated stereotypes and sexy, sexy pillow fights



CANDICE MALCOLM

I'm in a sorority—this isn't something I'm ashamed to say. Throughout my time here at the U of A, I've been met with constant confusion and doubt towards the intentions and purposes of our organization. People seem instinctively to correlate sorority girls with shallow and superficial behaviour, but the truth is, sororities are great organizations that have even greater potential—hopefully I can eradicate some of this confusion.

First of all, we call ourselves Greek because our organizations are named using two or three Greek letters, which pays homage to the organizations' academic roots. Each group is bound by a Charter, and these charters officially recognize us as Fraternities, since the word "sorority" wasn't coined when our groups were established (it was introduced during a feminist movement, so that women would no longer have to be bound by the masculine label). However, the two words are often used interchangeably, which can create confusion.

When I came to this campus, the groups were sometimes referred to as "Women's Fraternities," something that isn't common on any other campus in North America. I perceived this to be a feminist reaction to the negative connotations associated with the word sorority: that is, portraying superficiality and promiscuity amongst members. The term fraternity, so the thinking goes, commands respect, whereas sorority suggests female subordination.

When I think of my girls, I think of great leaders and listeners; we're sincere and considerate, and our organization is filled with love and laughter. The term sorority is perfect in capturing the spirit of our sisterhood, and I use it with confidence.

Instead of spending your time complaining about tuition fees and debt, why not embrace life, have some fun and be motivated to obtain a respectable career upon graduation, and then pay off that debt?

When I was young and impressionable, confused about life and university, my sorority sisters were there to help and guide me—it's been my family away from home. My sorority has encouraged me to take on leadership roles and given me the confidence to find my voice and then use it. It's taught me the value of education and of striving for excellence in all areas of life. It reminds me that life (and university) should be fun—and that it's okay to be spontaneous and irresponsible sometimes.

My older sister attended UBC, a campus similar to this one in size and purpose; it's also a place where fraternity life thrives and is even promoted by the University. These organizations are viewed very positively as a means of keeping young people interested in their education. They promote positive values while introducing talented people to one another and fostering these relationships. These people leave university satisfied and enter the community with connections and ambition.

Instead of spending your time complaining about tuition fees and debt, why not embrace life, have some fun and be motivated to obtain a respectable career upon graduation, and then pay off that debt? Instead of living in the library and competing brutishly for the top grade, why not embrace your community and seek the ideas and perspectives of your peers?

This is a time for experiences, to grow as a person and to learn about yourself. These things are only partially achieved in the classroom, and must be further pursued in other areas of campus.

The sorority worked for me. I know that I've been fortunate and that perhaps these organizations aren't for everyone. But I honestly believe that there's room for all types of people in the Greek system, and encourage all returning students to look at websites over the summer and consider getting more involved in your campus community come September. And you definitely shouldn't write off sororities or sorority girls.

More than just nip/tuck needed for downtown



MICHAEL LARA

Downtown Edmonton scares me. There's just something about the filth, the cold grey buildings and the occasional smelly homeless guy that puts me on the defensive whenever I cross the North Saskatchewan and travel "uptown." It's strange to admit this because I've never been assaulted or threatened, nor have I ever witnessed anything go down that was even a bit unseemly. To top it off, I've hardly ever hear about something seriously violent happening at all. Yet the feeling remains.

I don't actually think that Edmonton is all that violent. The overarching problem is the downtown area's look. The truth is, our city's occasionally smarmy and smutty core isn't as dangerous as other comparable urban centres—what it is, on the other hand, is dirty, washed out, decayed and lifeless. We need to give it a makeover—an extreme makeover. To put it bluntly, if the Edmonton city centre were a person, it would be Dennis Rodman. It needs some serious nip and tuck.

Firstly, it just looks ugly. The modern and different-looking street lamps down Jasper Ave would be cool if they weren't worn down. Trees are overgrown and look sickly during winter. The paint on the street is faded. The sidewalks are cracked. Sure, the harsh winter weather takes its toll, but we've got to be on top of these things. It just comes down to maintenance. It's not a big downtown, so the least we can do is keep it in tip-top physical shape.

Downtown just isn't the cultural hub that it could be. Whyte Ave has so much to offer in the way of art, fashion and cuisine. In fact, downtown could learn a lot from the kind of thing going on along Whyte. Mothers walk along the streets during summer with baby carriages, angsty teenagers in goth uniforms hang out on the street benches and couples kiss in public. That's the kind of crowd we need around the city centre instead of the literally hundreds of homeless people that sort of gather mainly around the Greyhound bus station, the clinical office workers and the occasional old person.

Alberta is in the middle of a boom. What better time than this to invest in our city? We have the resources and the money—all we need is a plan. With oil revenues we could build a monorail, or the new stadium that's been brought up recently, or we could put up a huge jumbotron like on Times Square in New York City.

We could do anything. Edmonton would finally be known for something else besides West Edmonton Mall. Downtown could be a hub of shopping, finance, art and culture. It could be the shining star of the prairie west. It could be the new Dubai. It could be known as the city with the most vibrant downtown around. Just imagine: a title like that would be worth all the money in the world.

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UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA

Undergraduate Student Awards

The Student Awards Office has several scholarship competitions running over the summer. Each competition has it's own set of criteria and eligibility requirements as outlined in the following descriptions.

For more information on these and other competitions please visit our website at **www.registrar.ualberta.ca/awards** or the Student Awards Office at 1-80 Students' Union Building.

University of Alberta Undergraduate Academic Scholarship Competition

The Undergraduate Academic Scholarship Competition recognizes and rewards students for superior academic achievement (minimum GPA of 3.5) on a full normal course load taken at the University of Alberta during the September to April academic year. Applicants must be returned to full-time studies in September 2007 to be eligible for these scholarships.

The Awards range in value from $500 to $4,000. Students can submit their applications online at **www.registrar.ualberta.ca/awards.**

Deadline to apply is September 30, 2007.

Louise McKinney Post-Secondary Scholarships

The Louise McKinney Post-Secondary Scholarship Competition was created by the Alberta Scholarship Office to recognize and reward students for their academic achievements and encourage them to continue in their undergraduate program. Approximately 250 scholarships valued at $2,500 each are available to University of Alberta students in the top 1 to 2% of their class. **Candidates are nominated by the Student Awards Office and will be sent an application form in June.**

Applicants must be Alberta residents and plan to enroll at the University of Alberta in the second or subsequent year of a full-time program. Students who have completed a degree program and are proceeding into another undergraduate program or a professional program must apply directly to the Student Awards Office by **June 1, 2007.**

Canada Millennium National In-course Excellence Awards

The Canada Millennium Scholarship Foundation created this scholarship program to recognize students for community service, academic achievement, leadership and innovation. These awards are available to student entering their third year of undergraduate studies in September 2007 who have achieved a minimum cumulative GPA of 3.3 on 80% (minimum) of a full normal course load.

The University of Alberta can nominate up to 31 students. The awards range in value from $4,000 to $10,000. Application forms are available on the Student Awards website at **www.registrar.ualberta.ca/awards**

Deadline for submission of application to the Student Awards Office is June 1, 2007

Jason Lang Scholarship

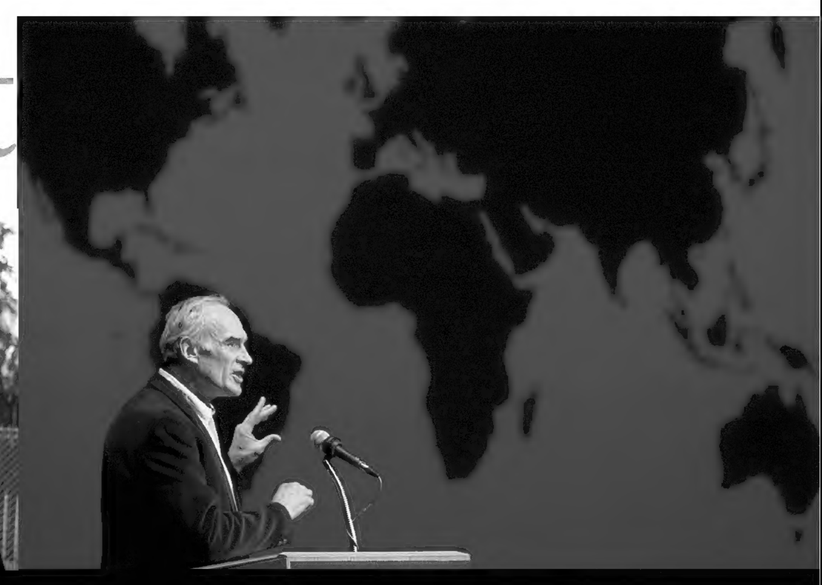
The Jason Lang Scholarships were created in honor of Jason Lang, a 17 year old Alberta high school student who was killed in a school shooting. These $1,000 scholarships are designed to reward the outstanding academic achievement of Alberta postsecondary students who are continuing into their second, third, or fourth year of studies.

Applicants must be Alberta residents who have achieved a minimum GPA of 3.2 on 24 units of course weight in their previous year of studies (September to April). Students can submit their applications on-line at **www.registrar.ualberta.ca**

Students can submit their applications online at www.registrar.ualberta.ca/awards. **The deadline to apply is September 15, 2007.**

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The Science

A host of scientific advancements were discussed at the Aging Symposium—everything from stem-cell therapy to a vaccine for Alzheimer's disease. Among the numerous scientific advances brought to the table were caloric restriction, virus therapy for cancer and mammalian regeneration.

Caloric Restriction

As the old saying goes, less is more. It's generally accepted that obesity and intake of excessive calories is detrimental to our bodies, but new evidence suggests that even an average diet isn't ideal. Recent studies have revealed that caloric restriction therapies may even be more beneficial than exercise in preventing cancer, cardiovascular disease and age-related inflammation, and that such a method will reduce muscle loss and extend lifespan.

Laboratory experiments of caloric restriction in flies, mice and a variety of other animal models have revealed a consistent increase in mean and maximal life span by up to 60 per cent.

A study conducted on *C elegens* (a commonly used invertebrate) combined caloric restriction with insulin signalling and found a 6–7 fold increase in longevity. In humans, this increase would equate to a 500-year-old person.

Dr Luigi Fontana, a scientist at Washington University, presented a seven-year longitudinal study in humans that supported these results. In this study, a calorie restricted diet consisted of 1700 calories per day. This is fairly limited when you consider that the average Canadian consumes about 2600 per day. A correlation was found between caloric restriction and a reduced incidence of cardiovascular disease, as well as an increase in lifespan. The study also contained an exercise group that consumed roughly 2600 calories per day but burned enough calories that their body fat and body mass index matched that of the caloric restriction group. This exercise group showed a reduction in cholesterol, blood pressure and tissue inflammation and an increase in overall longevity when compared to the control group. However, caloric restriction was shown to be more effective than exercise at reducing blood pressure and expanding lifespan.

So even if you hit the gym and work off those donuts from CramDunk, you might not be as well off as if you had just resisted that guilty pleasure in the first place.

Virus Therapy for Cancer

Dr Patrick Lee, a professor of microbiology and immunology at Dalhousie University, discussed a novel and counterintuitive approach to battling cancer: virus therapy.

"Most of us don't think of viruses as good guys, we associate these with diseases such as SARS, AIDS, HPV ... [but] in recent years scientists have found that we can actually use these as anti-cancer agents," he contends.

Viruses, unlike bacteria, must be in a viable host to divide. Certain biologically "benign" viruses, such as Reovirus, aren't supported in normal human cells, and are therefore unable to divide or have an effect on their host. However, cancer cells show an increased expression of certain factors that leave these cells susceptible to invasion by Reovirus. This virus is therefore able to divide and kill the cancer cells, while leaving the surrounding normal cells untouched. In a mouse model, one injection of Reovirus completely eliminated a brain tumor, and was also found to be highly effective in breast cancer cells.

"The tumor regression [with this approach] is absolutely remarkable," Lee enthuses.

Other viruses are also making the cut for this new approach to cancer therapy; an attenuated version of the Herpes simplex virus is currently undergoing clinical trials as a novel brain cancer therapy.

Mammalian Regeneration

Most of us remember learning that some organisms (such as worms and salamanders) can lose an arm or a tail and just grow it right back, whereas the same just isn't true for humans. Contrary to what you learned in grade school, this capacity may soon be extended to non-regenerators, like humans.

A strain of mouse called the MRL has recently shown an ability regenerate tissue in a way previously thought impossible for mammals.

Dr Ellen Herber-Katz, of the Wistar Institute in Philadelphia, has unveiled this strain's amazing ability to regenerate damaged and lost tissue in the ears, heart and digits. She and others in this field are optimistic that studies of this gene line will uncover the secrets of regeneration and open up the possibility for regeneration in humans.

"We have positive results, and we're working hard to turn a non-regenerator into a regenerator, and I'm very confident [that this will be achieved]," Herber-Katz conveys.

Biological Challenges of Aging

Muscle Loss

Age-related muscle loss (Sarcopenia) is one of the most important risk factors for frailty, and can lead to slips and falls that create secondary injuries (like a broken hip) while also taking a general toll on mobility and independence. Moreover, muscle is the source of metabolites needed in trauma, leaving seniors at risk in surgery. The loss of muscle seen with aging is largely genetic, but also results partially from inactivity, and varies across individuals but can be as substantial as two thirds total muscle mass.

Cancer

Age is the number-one risk factor for cancer, and researchers predict that cancer will be one of the biggest barriers to lifespan extension.

Cardiovascular Disease

Cardiovascular disease is the leading cause of death in North America and outweighs all other major causes of death combined. Some of the major risk factors for cardiovascular disease include weight, type II diabetes, cholesterol levels and blood pressure.

Other

A host of other age-related genetic disorders including, but not limited to, Parkinson's Disease, Alzheimer's Disease and Huntington's Disease, lead to reduced health and vitality in old age.

The Future of Aging

Events like the Edmonton Aging Symposium, sponsored in part by the City of Edmonton and the Government of Alberta, provide evidence that the science of aging is becoming a topic of concern for scientists and policymakers alike.

The aging of the baby boomers is creating economic and social hurdles that societies will need to address in order to lessen the impact of this demographic shift. Regardless of the way we chose to address this, scientists at this conference were eager to express that amazing potentials are here.

"The key to repairing and restoring function exists within every one of your cells ... we propose that every part of your body can be recreated," Platika said.

of Youth
Extending the Human Lifespan

Would you like to live until you're 1000? Until recently, biological degeneration was thought to be an inescapable consequence of human aging. However, scientists are now beginning to question the inevitability of this deterioration of the body, foreseeing a future where science has overcome the biological constraints of the human lifespan.

Written by Sarah Treit

The Edmonton Aging Symposium, held at the University of Alberta last weekend, brought together 37 top scientists, academics and theorists from around the world to take a look at the science and ethics of aging. This conference explored the possibility that the detriments of aging are no longer unavoidable, and that technologies capable of drastically extending the human lifespan are almost within reach.

Dr Aubry de Grey of Cambridge University is the chief scientist of the Methuselah Foundation, a non-profit organization seeking to conduct research and raise awareness for aging interventions. He proposes a far-reaching government-funded initiative aimed at understanding the mechanisms of aging and accelerating therapies to combat it. Under such an initiative, he feels that life-extending technology will be marked by exponential advances.

"It's very probable that the first person to live to 1000 will be less than 20 years younger than the first person to live to 150," de Grey suggests.

Although this claim may seem surprising, speaker Dr Doros Platika of the Pittsburg Life Sciences Greenhouse, and leader of the SuperCentenarian Research Foundation, reminded the audience that the feat of doubling life expectancy has already been accomplished in one lifetime.

"At the turn of the century average life expectancy was somewhere around 39 ... now it is much older, [around 80 years old]" Platika comments.

Additionally, he points out that social constructs based largely on life expectancy, such as mandatory retirement at 65, are beginning to change. The University of Alberta has just abolished mandatory retirement—a decision that may reflect a changing attitude about vitality later in life.

Although many of the speakers expressed enthusiasm for the pursuit of anti-aging science, the ethics surrounding the issue were also discussed in a head-to-head debate between two of the speakers.

Dr Daniel Callahan, a renowned bioethicist from the Hastings Centre for bioethics, argues that focusing economic resources on aging science would be negligent for a society that's faced with so many other pressing problems.

"Are there any present problems in society that would be helped by longer life? Global warming? Terrorism?" he urges, adding that "individual desire [for a longer life] is not legitimate."

Callahan further speculates that although we may be able to extend life, we are unable to predict what the quality of that longer life would be. He suggests that there are other means to pursuing health in old age, and that pouring money into radical life-extending science might not be the answer.

"Most of the improvement in the health of the elderly is coming from the background socio-economic conditions .... something like 60 per cent of the improvements have come from that directive, rather than from medical care or medical research. It seems to me that there would be a fundamentally greater value of putting money into improving our understanding of prevention, lifestyle and behaviour issues," he asserts.

His opponent, Dr Greg Stock, director of the program Medicine Technology and Society at UCLA, predicts exactly the opposite economic situation. He contends that the economic gains achieved by eliminating the diseases and detriments of aging would outweigh the costs of research.

"The savings in [medicare and social security] of extending the human health-span would be ... so immense that that they would justify the rather modest amount of money that would be spent on research," Stock states.

De Grey contends that whether or not an international initiative is undertaken, advances in specific areas of aging research will sum up to produce advancements in the human lifespan.

"The logic of the longevity-escape philosophy is actually much more certain and much more incontrovertible than any of the more near-term stuff that I talk about—which is, after all, the nuts and bolts of how to get there in the first place—and yet it's the discussion of four-digit lifespans that really gets people upset," he says.



KRYSTINA SULATYCKI

"It's very probable that the first person to live to 1000 will be less than 20 years younger than the first person to live to 150."

SOCIAL INTERCOURSE

The Constantines
With Jon-Rae & the River, and Ladyhawk
Friday, 6 April at 8pm
Starlite Room
$19 advance at Blackbyrd, Megatunes, Listen & Tix on the Square

Bands with the odd Roman Emperor on drums or bass appear commonly in Edmonton, but it's a rare occasion when an entire group of Byzantine leaders visit the city to belt out some alternative folk rock. Unlike the majority of rock bands, these guys are quite literate with both their lyrics and their music, and are a quickly rising force in the "indie" music scene. Prepare to be locked into an epic power struggle between your urges of playing it cool at the bar or getting out onto the floor.

The Cliks
With Riverboyz
Thursday 12 April at 8 pm
Powerplant, 18+
$10 at the door

The Cliks are an all-female blues-rock band from Toronto, Ontario that makes Justin Timberlake sound good. Literally. The band took "Cry Me A River," a staple tune of the whitest man in America, and made it bluesy, soulful and most importantly, listenable to anyone over the age of 14. If they can make JT palatable to even the most ardent pop music hater, they definitely deserve your attention next Thursday at the Powerplant, when they'll have you coming to the back, going ahead and being gone with it.

Year-End Beer Gardens
Featuring The Turning Away, The Schematics, Everyother, Apache Rose, Of Angels, Twentyone Red and DJ Suave
Runs 12–13 April from 11am to 7pm
Quad

Why they bring back this incredibly unpopular event every year, no one can be sure. But for the minority of University students who actually enjoy the horrendously sinful and downright shameful act of consuming alcohol, the BSA is holding a "garden of beer" to "celebrate" the end of classes with live music and live booze. I can't say that Eliot Ness would approve, and furthermore, as a Puritan and strict supporter of Prohibition, I believe everyone should stick to getting hopped up on goofballs.

Black Label Society
Friday, 13 April at 8pm
Edmonton Events Centre (formerly Red's), 18+
$36 plus tax from Ticketmaster

The gigantic pillar at the Events Center is about to get shredded. Zakk Wylde, Ozzy's former guitarist and possibly the most intimidating man in rock, brings the pain of his bluesy Southern-tinged metal to West Ed. The band writes songs primarily about violence and booze, and with Wylde's guitar reverberating through the venue formerly known as Red's, you can expect to leave with your ears ringing and your head partly bashed in, which, depending on your perspective on moshing, can be good or bad.

Econoline Crush
With The Art of Dying
Monday 16 April at 8pm
Starlite Room
$16 advance or $20 at the door

After disbanding in 2001 to pursue side projects, the members of the Vancouver-based industrial band Econoline Crush have returned to the touring circuit, with promises of a new album in the works. So for all you modern rockers who remember nodding your head to "You Don't Know What It's Like" off of *Big Shiny Tunes 4* at your junior high dance, you can relive that nostalgia right before exams to help remind you what a simple time it was back then.

JONN KMECH
Extremely fertile



Fishing for fitness, charity

Folk artist Jeremy Fisher talks about touring via bicycle and his latest CD, *Goodbye Blue Monday*

Jeremy Fisher
With Tomi Swick
Thursday, 12 April at 8pm
Starlite Room

RENATO PAGNANI
Arts & Entertainment Staff

There are people who swear by their bicycles for transportation, and then there are those who actually practice what they preach. Case in point: singer-songwriter Jeremy Fisher. The Hamilton, Ontario native spent six months atop his trusty two-wheeler in 2001, touring in support of his independent debut, *Back Porch Spirituals*. Beginning in Seattle, Fisher rode almost 7500 kilometers across Canada before ending the "One Less Tourbus" tour in Halifax.

It was certainly an unconventional way to tour, but had a good cause behind it. Fisher partnered with the Institute for Transportation and Development Policy to raise money for the *Tour des Femmes*, which promotes access to education and bicycles for girls in Africa.

"A lot of girls in Africa didn't have access to education," Fisher explains over the phone. "There was infrastructure available to the boys, but not the girls. They couldn't afford bicycles, but if they had, some of them were willing to ride up to 20 miles a day, there and back, just to go to school. I saw a parallel between what I was doing and what they were trying to achieve."

Fisher's cross-country trek was more than just a fundraiser for a noble cause, however; there were ecological undertones to it as well. A proponent of green transportation, Fisher acknowledges that his choice of a bicycle as his main vehicle extends past just being an excellent source of exercise.

"It's a lifestyle for me," says Fisher. "I definitely have an awareness of the impact of fossil fuel traffic on our streets and our highways. I don't own a car, and I never have. When I did that tour, I wanted to help out a cause that was working towards exporting that model of transportation to other parts of the world. I just wanted to try and spread the word about it. I really wanted to put a positive spin on it, not getting on the case of cars or anything."

He may not be touring by bicycle anymore, but Fisher's still keeping things green on his recently released third album, *Goodbye Blue Monday*. Having parted ways with former label Sony, the once-again independent Fisher has taken a more hands-on approach to his music career. His homemade, self-directed video for lead single "Cigarette" debuted two months ago and has since reached over a million views on YouTube—an accomplishment Fisher is very proud of.

"I feel like I've been successful in part of what I've set out to do with this record, which is [to] go for a more grassroots approach to the marketing," states Fischer. "I've made three videos, and I made them all myself at home on really crude equipment on my laptop and I feel really justified in making the decision to leave the major label.

"People are responding to [the video]," he continues. "They are e-mailing it to their friends and putting it on their own MySpace pages. People have taken it on to be their own, which is why I made it. All of the sudden, if you have something that people want to see, you have the means to get it to them."



Jeremy Fisher
Goodbye Blue Monday
True North Records
www.therealjeremyfisher.com

RENATO PAGNANI
Arts & Entertainment Staff

If you've heard a Hawksley Workman album before, you already know what to expect from Jeremy Fisher's *Goodbye Blue Monday*. Workman himself serves as producer and collaborator for many of the album's songs, and his influence shows—*Goodbye Blue Monday* is an upbeat set of eleven acoustic folk songs, which are the perfect soundtrack to a crisp, spring morning or a humid summer night at the cabin.

"Cigarette" is one of those wave-your-lighter folk anthems, sparsely produced but rich in melody and mood. It's technically not the best moment on the album, but it offers the most immediately gratification, with its double-tracked melodies and a breakdown that screams "concert sing-a-long staple." "Lay Down (Ballad of Rigoberto Alpizar)" is a touching ode to the Costa Rican-born American who was tragically shot in 2005 by air marshals who mistakenly thought he was carrying a home-made bomb. Fisher even gets cinematic on "16mm," likening those priceless moments in our lives to dusty, unedited rolls of film. Workman's touches show up on tracks like "Jolene" and "American Girls," where he provides backup vocals that complement Fisher's airy and surprisingly versatile vocals snugly.

Fisher is one of those hippie folk artists who dislikes war in all of its incarnations, yet comes off as inoffensive in his protests: even when he tries to make some sort of bold, political statement, he manages to propagate much more gentle suggestions, giving him the aura of a nice, Canadian boy. Call him the Jack Johnson of Canadian folk.



Kroeker a cultural diplomat

Joel Kroeker
With John Guliak and the New Lougans
Friday, 13 April at 8pm
Victory Lounge

RENATO PAGNANI
Arts & Entertainment Staff

Musicians are similar to professional athletes in many regards: they're rarely at home, they have to deal with living on the road and they often find themselves under the scrutiny of the public eye. However, there's one similarity between the two vocations that's rarely noted: that both musicians and athletes often drop their studies to focus on developing their craft.

Joel Kroeker, however, managed to juggle both at once, professionally playing music while attending the University of Winnipeg. Later, he earned his Masters in Ethnomusicology here at the University of Alberta, which has proven invaluable to Kroeker as a singer-songwriter.

"Ethnomusicology is basically the study of music and culture," the Winnipeg native explains. "It's kind of like the anthropology of music. In comparison to musicology, which is usually based on western music, ethnomusicology is all over the world.

"It's helped me to see past the normal stereotypes that we all sort of see and look more insightfully. If you don't look deeply into something or research it, you tend to just accept the stereotypes and how music is used in each culture. And not necessarily ethnic cultures, but also singer-songwriters and musicians."

Having lived in Edmonton during his tenure as a graduate student, Kroeker is adamant in his praise for the Alberta capital as both a place to live and a burgeoning music scene. Describing the sense of community that exists in Edmonton between musicians, Kroeker admits to missing his former place of residence and the venues that it contains.

> **"If you don't look deeply into something or research it, you tend to just accept the stereotypes and how music is used in each culture."**
>
> **JOEL KROEKER**

"We were one of the last bands to play at the [old] Sidetrack Café before it closed," Kroeker fondly reminisces. "I've played there so many times during the three years I lived in Edmonton—I played there constantly. Playing shows with bands like Captain Tractor and all the local bands were a lot of fun. It was just such a great venue.

"It's like that everywhere in Canada, though," Kroeker continues. "Part of it is related to the music business being confused about how to deal with the situation, which then affects all aspects of music. What's sad about that is that this aspect of culture in the city will be negatively impacted. People need a place to go to experience new things that will blow their minds, and actually feel like they're learning something and seeing something new."

Though he now lives in Vancouver, Kroeker is back in town next week performing at the Velvet Underground as part of CKUA's "Live From Alberta Stages" concert series, as well as to promote his latest album release, *Closer to the Flame*. The album is a surprising contrast when compared to his 2004 effort, *Melodrama*: whereas *Melodrama* chronicled his life as it was falling apart, Kroeker insists *Closer to the Flame* is a much more positive affair, where all the pieces of his life have been picked up and put back where they belong. It has spawned a major hit in Québec with "Déjà Vu," an English/French duet with Québec star Dany Bédar. The track also appears on Bédar's album *Acoustique ... en studio!*

When asked what he thinks has contributed to his success in Québec, Kroeker, ever the good sport, laughs and gives an honest answer:

"Absolute, total, luck."

whitematter

PHP/MySQL Contract Development

Whitematter Development is seeking students with PHP/MySQL experience for a couple of projects we are working on this summer. The projects are fairly straightforward, involving modifying and extending an existing codebase. Additional projects are also possible. If you only have a month or two you want to fill, we will consider assigning single projects.

Important qualities we seek are excellent problem-solving capabilities, a creative mind, a strong sense of integrity, and an easy-going nature. Having a good sense of humor helps, too.

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Please submit your resumé and cover letter to jobs@whitematter.ca. Please include information on your compensation expectations or other requirements you may have.

Our soft deadline for applications is end of business on Monday, 16 April.

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Western

Stop the spread of syphilis

Alberta is facing an outbreak of infectious syphilis.

Over 200 cases of infectious syphilis were identified throughout the province last year; a 40% increase from the previous year.

Anyone who is having unprotected sex, outside of an exclusive, single partner relationship, can contract syphilis. People of all ages face the risk.

Syphilis is a sexually transmitted infection that can cause serious health consequences. It can be detected with a simple blood test and is treated with antibiotics.

What you can do to prevent the spread of syphilis:
- Practice safer sex with the use of a condom.
- If you think you may have been exposed to syphilis, talk to a health professional about having a syphilis blood test.
- For more information, call the STI/HIV line at: 1 (800) 772 2437.



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THE GATEWAY

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'Plant's out for summer



PHOTO MONTAGE: KRYSTINA SULATYCKI

After a year of dry taps, empty buffets and record losses, the SU Executive has opted to close the Powerplant's doors for the summer in favour of RATT. But with renovations planned during the closure, will it reopen as a bar with booze flowing or be turned into a study space with textbooks cracking?

RYAN HEISE
Online Coordinator

Students holed up in Rutherford Library during the spring and summer semesters won't have the luxury of the quick walk to the Powerplant for a pint on the patio this year.

The Students' Union Executive has opted to close down all business operations of the Powerplant from May through August. The decision was made a few weeks ago with information being released to Council on 27 March.

SU Vice-President (Operations and Finance) Chris Cunningham explained that the decision was made by General Manager Bill Smith, Manger of Finance and Administration Anita Cooper and himself.

"It was unanimous," Cunningham continued. "[The Executive] all sat down and said, 'Yup, it's probably for the best.' Hopefully we are going to be doing some minor renovations over the course of the summer. Again, that still remains to be seen. We're looking into different financing approaches."

PLEASE SEE 'PLANT ◆ PAGE 2

Cancer patients turn to unapproved drug

OLESIA PLOKHII
News Staff

Some cancer patients are self-medicating with a fairly cheap compound known as DCA, despite warnings of toxicity from numerous health professionals, including the author of the study that tested the drug.

DCA, or dichloroacetate, proved to regress cancerous tumors in rats without damaging normal cells in a study, but has yet to be clinically tested on human patients and awaits Health Canada's approval.

The study—led by Dr Evangelos Michelakis, a University of Alberta cardiologist—has stirred controversy since being made available to the public in the Cancer Cell academic journal back in January. The easily accessible results enabled eager business people to capitalize on desperate cancer patients trying to buy time and beat the odds. Ethics and safety have been the two pillars of contention between Michelakis and Jim Tassano, a Californian man who owns the site www.buydca.com. Tassano sells the compound for a profit through the site.

Despite prior interviews that quote an outspoken Michelakis, the doctor has denied any further media requests, as have two members of his research team—Dr Sebastien Bonnet and Dr Gary Lopaschuk—both said that they weren't informed enough to provide comment.

Michelakis has, in previous interviews, firmly urged people not to take the drug until it's proven safe for humans in clinical trials, which are scheduled to begin in the next few months.

Because DCA is so common and has been used before to treat mitochondrial-energy producing cells in patients, it cannot be patented, allowing people to readily produce and market the drug. Even though Tassano's website markets the compound as a treatment for cancerous animals, the Californian biologist said he's well aware of the vast pool of people purchasing the drug for human cancer treatment.

PLEASE SEE DCA ◆ PAGE 4

Debating tobacco industry funding

Scientists square off on what constitutes academic freedom now that one faculty has restricted research dollars and pressure mounts to make it a trend

CHLOÉ FEDIO
Managing Editor

Although the University of Alberta has no policy against it, the Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry has started prohibiting research funding from the tobacco industry. The motion was passed on 20 March, 2007 at the Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry's Council meeting.

Jo-ann Nugent, director of communications for the Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry, said that the discussion was prompted when Charl Els, a researcher in the Department of Psychiatry, faced a major road block in his attempt to apply for a grant from the Canadian Institutes of Health Research to study tobacco use and cessation in mentally ill people.

Els explained that a clause in the grant application stipulated that the funding would only be granted if the head of his department signed a form assuring that no one within the department was currently using or would accept future tobacco industry funding.

"In tobacco control research, it's not unusual. ... I was not surprised when I saw it and thought it would just be a formality," Els said. "I was rejected from the funding stream as a direct consequence of not being able to sign the form."

A year later, the Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry has created the conditions under which Els can apply for a grant, but the researcher is asking that the University apply the funding policy to the entire campus.

"I would respectfully request that the University of Alberta's Board of Governors to take the high road on this particular issue and move towards implementing a wide-reaching policy against receiving research and other funding from any tobacco industry," Els said.

But, Dr Carl V Phillips, a U of A researcher and professor of public health sciences, argued that the decision to create a policy in the Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry was done hastily and that greater debate about restricting funding was needed before a University-wide application.

"We're talking here about something that's incredibly momentous: we're talking about a vote to curtail academic freedom—something that absolutely should not be done lightly under any circumstances, let alone without debate. And yet, it was slipped in as 'another business' kind of a thing," Phillips said.

Phillips arrived at the U of A in 2005 with a $1.5 million grant from the makers of Skoal and Copenhagen to study smokeless tobacco as a harm reduction method for tobacco users. Initially a researcher in the Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry, he's now part of the School of Public Health.

"For something like this [new funding policy] that is, frankly, primarily about me, of course it would make sense to invite me as a guest to attend that meeting, but I in fact did not even hear that this was happening until about a week after it already happened," Phillips said.

PLEASE SEE FUNDING ◆ PAGE 5

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Catch of the day

In case you didn't get enough of it over the year, here's a little extra photo love to last you 'til we're back.

FEATURE, PAGE 14-15



And the winner is ...

The stars have walked the red carpet and are ready to receive their prizes in the second *Gateway* Sports Awards.

FEATURE, PAGE 22

No great shakes

Friends, this is it: the last "real" issue of the semester. The 2006/07 *Gateway* team is heading to dry dock, but check the racks on 10 May for the first issue under the deathship's new captain.

The Used all geared up to play Taste of Chaos

The Used
Rockstar Taste of Chaos Tour, 2007
Thursday, 5 April at 4pm
Shaw Conference Center

MATT HUBERT
Arts & Entertainment Staff



For many bands, the challenge of breaking the mainstream conscience requires little more than a punchy video or a raucous little ditty trimmed for an iTunes add. All too often, though, the flame burns out as quickly as it burns bright. Some bands see the real test as one of longevity and of being able to pick up right where you left off.

In this case, the Orem, Utah natives The Used have just finished up a show in Montréal and bassist Jeph Howard is beaming over the warm Canadian welcome.

"They're different than the US shows," Howard says. "Canada's amazing—people here really love the music."

After touring extensively for 2004's *In Love and Death*, the band spent the last year quietly crafting material for a follow-up, a process that saw the departure of long-time drummer and founding member Branden Steineckert just prior to entering the studio.

Still, the departure wasn't nearly enough to break the wave of new material that Howard, guitarist Quinn Allman and singer Bert McCracken had amassed for the forthcoming *Lies for the Liars*. The band welcomed former New Transit Direction drummer Dan Whitesides shortly before setting out for Taste of Chaos, and with an arsenal of new songs at their disposal, the band feels more renewed than ever.

"We feel more whole as a band than we ever have," Howard admits. "We've played eight new songs, some that won't even make the record, and it's been really solid.

"It just feels like us, if that makes sense," Howard continues. "I'm not going to say that it's heavier and I'm not going to say that it's mellower, but it feels more like The Used than any other record."

The Used's studio time has been so productive that two additional EPs are scheduled for release later in the year. But for Howard, the finished *Lies For the Liars* is the most complete release of their relatively young career. Now, more than a month into the tour, the new material has brought renewed vigour into their live performances. For a few years now, they've maintained the incendiary stage presence that made them favourites to festivals like Vans Warped Tour, yet it's quite clear that the band are eager to break away from Warped's oft-lamented madness for something a little bit different.

"It's outside, it's hot," Howard groans. "It's a combination of the two worst things. This tour the shows are inside, there's lighting and it sets the vibe—basically it's the way shows are meant to be seen."

Whatever fans see on Thursday night, The Used are certain that it will be miles from what many critics have tried to make it out to be. Despite the success of their self-titled release in 2002 and 2004's *In Love and Death*, the band shies away from being considered at the forefront of a genre that has been so grievously generalized.

"People like to call it emo or screamo or whatever," explains Howard. "[But] there are so many good bands that don't fit that any of those labels and somehow manage to get labelled anyway. To us, we're just a rock band—just an honest rock band."

An Open Letter to Premier Ed Stelmach, Dave Hancock and the Alberta PC Caucus

Dear Premier Stelmach, Ministers and MLA's:

In early 1982, Mr. Grant McLean left his career with the Regular Force in the military to take up a position with the Alberta Solicitor General. A key consideration in his decision to leave the military, was the promise both verbally during the recruiting/interview process and in his official offer of employment letter that his military pension contributions were transferable.

The individuals involved in the hiring process made commitments, on behalf of the government of Alberta, that were not consistent with the government policy. Mr McLean was not advised that his pension contributions were not transferable until well after he had irrevocably left the Canadian Forces and had taken up his employment with the Alberta Government. Because he was not able to transfer his pension contributions, Mr McLean has been deprived of a considerable financial benefit through an error by a representative of the Alberta Government.

The Government of Alberta has procedures in place for recruitment of new employees and the transfer or non-transfer of pension contributions funds for new employees who are hired. Very clear directives are issued to guide the government's human resource personnel who oversee this hiring process. The government's own procedures and directives state that employees responsible for hiring are responsible for ensuring that applicants receive correct pension information. The employee's supervisors within the Government of Alberta are responsible for ensuring that she is/they are trained and capable of carrying out the duties competently.

The Alberta government employee responsible for Mr McLean's hiring was new to the Alberta government. She was not aware of the pension directives and procedures that were in place within the Government of Alberta. Consequently, she did not follow the proper procedures and negligently/mistakenly/improperly misrepresented the issue of pension during the interview process and in Mr McLean's employment offer letter. She was not aware that that there was no provision for the transferring pension funds from the military and RCMP pension plans which are different than those of the federal civil service.

Since then she has stated under oath that the information that she provided Mr McLean was incorrect. Relying on this incorrect advice from the government employee and assuming that his pension was transferable, Mr McLean resigned from the military and thus forfeited 14 1/2 years of pensionable service. This constitutes a significant financial penalty to him-the loss of almost 30% of his pension.

Over the years, Mr McLean has attempted to address the problem through the government chain of command who stated that there was no mechanism for them to do so. In 1999 he launched a legal action against the employee and the Alberta government. The matter has still not come to trial.

Gentlemen, the following questions come to mind. Why do provincial employees have to sue their own government in order to resolve matters that are patently unfair and unjust? Alberta's courts are already backlogged. Matters like this will bog them down even further. Why is this issue dragging on and not being settled? Is this a fair way of treating a former Canadian soldier who served his country on military, NATO and United Nations Peacekeeping duty for nearly 15 years and the province of Alberta for nearly 25 years?

We look forward to your response in an upcoming issue of the *Gateway*.

Signed

The Friends of Grant McLean

What you can do to help:

- Check out all of the details at www.friendsofgrant.com
- Contact Alberta's Premier, Ed Stelmach by e-mail at premier@gov.ab.ca or call his office at 427-2251. Ask why the Alberta government is not prepared to try to help resolve this issue without bogging it down our court system further.
- Contact your MLA and express your feelings about how Mr Grant McLean is being treated in this matter.

A well-designed farewell

Bachelor of Design Grad Show

Runs 3 April until 14 April
FAB Gallery

MARIA KOTOVYCH
Arts & Entertainment Staff

While many graduating students are apathetically vomiting out essays and projects, awaiting the moment they'll be set free from campus, graduates from the University of Alberta's Bachelor of Design program have been working towards going out with a bang. Travis Park and Heather Williamson, the respective President and Vice-President of the Bachelor of Design Graduation Society, explain that the latest FAB showing will be the pinnacle of fine arts students' work.

"[The exhibit is a] showcase of the result of four years of education that we've received through the program," explains Park.

"[It] showcases what we've accomplished," Williamson adds.

The Grad Show presents a variety of styles and products from 44 students—the largest class in the program's history. Everything from 3-D pieces—like furniture—to 2-D visual communication works, including posters and book designs, will be on display. Additionally, Park and Williamson explain that other styles of design, such as interactive media projects and environmental awareness pieces are part of the show. For example, one of Williamson's own works is an eight-panel, accordion-fold printout with instructions on how to sew a button in six steps. One of Park's projects is a human rights poster based on an article from the Declaration of Human Rights.

"[The poster] uses visual rhetoric to communicate a message without the actual written text, even though the text is provided," explains Park.

"[It] gets people to understand the message without looking at the text," Williamson adds.

The inspiration for a work sways from project to project, the pair explain, depending on one's views, and who they expect to see the work. Furthermore, they stress the necessity of research to the outcome of a project.

"[Inspiration's] very dependent on what the project is and whatever kind of field you want and what you're aiming to communicate," Park says.

"[It also depends on] who your audience is ... then you compile key words and any images or imagery that comes to mind when you're thinking about the project," Williamson says.

The designer's next step is to sketch possible designs, select an approach and fine-tune the idea in order to complete the project.

"[The show will] introduce the new designers to the design community in Edmonton," Park says.

Both Park and Williamson hope to work in a studio after graduation, especially one that will allow them to work on various projects in different situations. But presently, the duo are simply excited about the show and the graduating class.

"The exhibit showcases [the] achievement and the varied styles [of the class]," Park explains. "[It's] a celebration of work."



LAUREN STIEGLITZ

STILL BRUSHING UP The Bachelor of Design students will be putting their work on display.



Harry,

Shall I compare thee to my bottle of rum?
Thou art more spiced and more sedate:
Pouring over copy did make me glum,
But alas, your presence did my smile create:
Sometimes, campus readers scorn my teachings
Unable to read sarcasm between the lines,
SO4 and abortion, oh the screechings!
Your scar healed me, introducing me to fine wines;
But thy eternal love for rambling articles shall not fade,
Nor lose sight of my pretentious taste;
Nor shall Death be my maid,
When in eternal times I shall rise above, poste haste;
So long as musician interviews I pursue,
So long we remain to laugh and on people spew.

Your one true love: Amanda Ash

GATEWAY A&E
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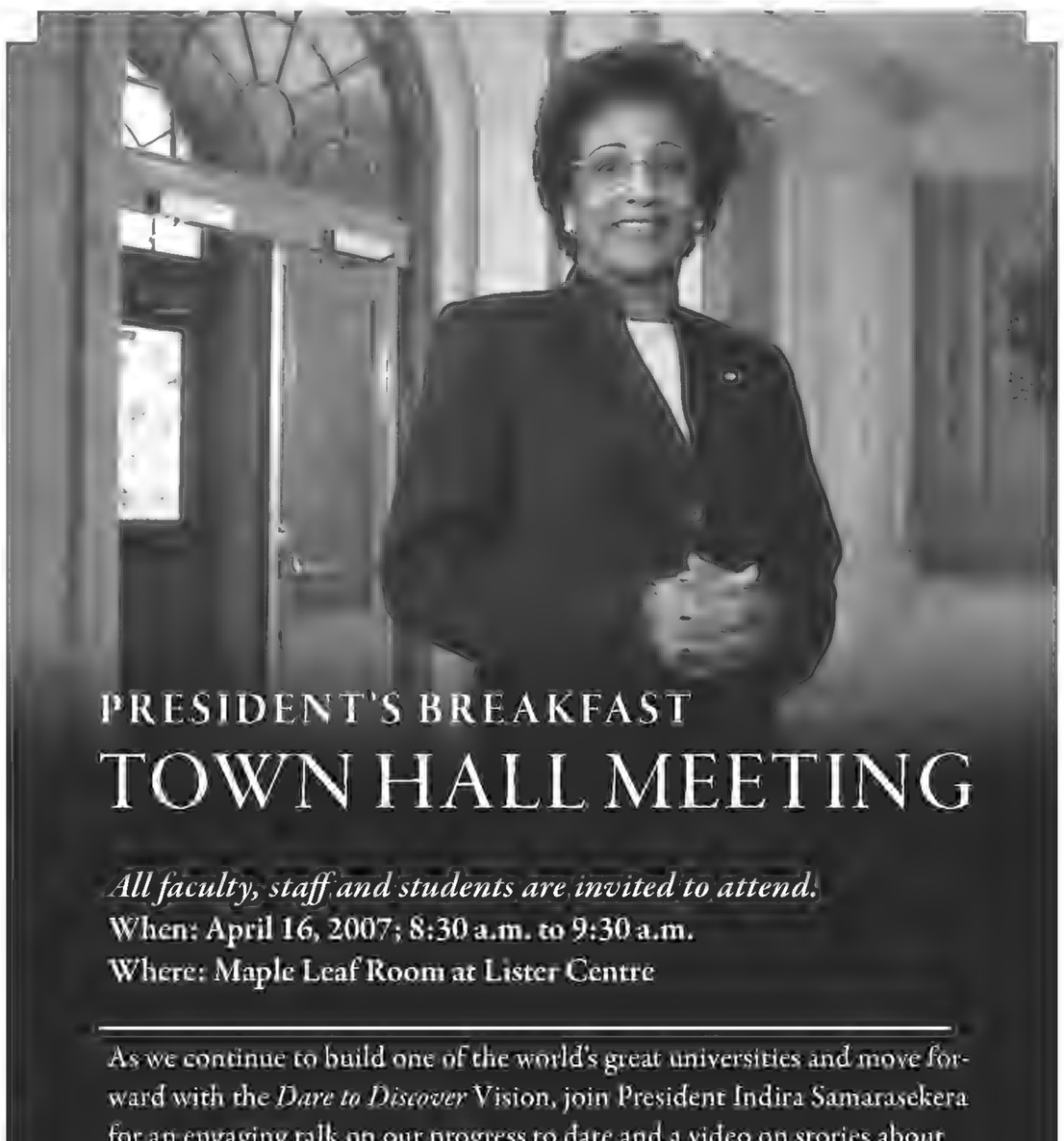
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PRESIDENT'S BREAKFAST
TOWN HALL MEETING

All faculty, staff and students are invited to attend.
When: April 16, 2007; 8:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m.
Where: Maple Leaf Room at Lister Centre

As we continue to build one of the world's great universities and move forward with the *Dare to Discover* Vision, join President Indira Samarasekera for an engaging talk on our progress to date and a video on stories about our talented people serving through knowledge will be shown. To be followed with a Q&A session.

Please RSVP online by Wednesday, April 11at
www.president.ualberta.ca/townhallmeeting

If you have questions regarding this event, please contact sheila.stosky@ualberta.ca or 492-1525.

UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA

Pandas dominate *Gateway* Sports Awards

GATEWAY SPORTS STAFF
Rucking tuxes for the ceremony

After spending the better part of the past week arguing and firing off angry e-mails at one another, we at *Gateway* Sports have cast our ballots and are ready to announce the second annual *Gateway* Sports Awards. There was rampant success spreading through the athletics teams at the University this year, but there were also a couple failures too. Before we get to the best and worst in the past year at the U of A, it's important to know who voted on these things.

Paul Owen
Outgoing sports editor who's in his third year of covering varsity sports.

Ross Prusakowski
Finishing up his fourth year as a volunteer (and as an undergraduate) and has covered every sport out there at least once.

Robin Collum
Spent a lot of time in the Main Gym during the winter months, covering basketball and volleyball in her third year with the paper.

Trevor Phillips
Second-year hockey writer who still manages to stay on top of the rest of the Bears and Pandas teams.

Nick Frost
Dabbled in a little bit of everything in his second year as a writer.

Janelle Sloychuk
The section's rookie of the year played clean-up all season long, taking the stories no one else would.

Athlete of the Year
Lindsay McAlpine, Pandas Hockey

McAlpine's numbers speak for themselves. Her 57-points on the season tied a CIS record, and she lead her team to gold at Nationals—the fourth title of her career.

NF: It was close between McAlpine and Pandas volleyballer Tiffany Dodds; both had strong years and lead their team to gold at Nationals. However, the puck Pandas would've suffered more—not that they necessarily would've suffered, but they would've had that much less of a team—in McAlpine's absence than the volleyball Pandas would've suffered without Dodds.

TP: Coming back from a life threatening disease to lead Canada West in scoring and averaging over two points per game is sick.

Honourable mention: Tiffany Dodds, whose 32-kill display in the national semifinal is easily the individual performance of the year.

Coach of the Year
Scott Edwards, Pandas Basketball

In an almost unanimous decision (five first-place votes and one second), the first-year bench boss made the category with the most potential winners—five U of A coaches (including Edwards) won CIS Coach of the Year awards, and two others won National titles—the least contentious.

RC: This one is pretty much indisputable. The Pandas had a losing record last year going 9–11, and he managed to pull them together and take them all the way to the National final. His team plays hard for him, and he's a huge part of their success this year.

JS: The man comes around from practically nowhere as a fill-in, leads the Pandas to a CIS silver medal, receives the CIS Coach of the Year award and gets signed on another season.

RP: That they didn't bring home a banner from the Rock shouldn't make a difference. Edwards managed to harness the talent, mental toughness and athleticism of the team in a way that his predecessor never did, and brought them closer than they've been in years in the process.

Honourable mention: Bears soccer head coach Len Vickery, Pandas volleyball head coach Laurie Eisler and Pandas hockey head coach Howie Draper.

Rookie of the Year
Ian McDonald, Bears Hockey

McDonald finished third on the Bears in scoring this season, with ten goals and 18 assists in 28 games. The freshman slotted onto Alberta's top line nicely and helped the team replace the scoring lost with the departure of Ben Thomson and the graduation of Brad Tutschek.

RP: One of a host of rookies that joined the Bears hockey team this seasons, McDonald brought the most of any freshman. He provided a lot of pop to a Bears offence looking for its next generation of scorers.

PO: Not only are McDonald's numbers impressive, but he also had a big knack for scoring clutch goals. He potted four game-winners on the year and had both Alberta's goals in their 2–1 win over Saskatchewan in the first game of the conference finals.

Honourable mention: Bears hockey defenceman Kyle Fecho, Pandas hockey blueliner Rayanne Reeve and midfielder Eddy Sidra of the Bears soccer squad.

Team of the Year
Pandas Hockey

The Pandas 32-4-1 record is among the best at the U of A this season, as is their National Title. The Pandas also lost their leading scorer from last season in Kristen Hagg, making their run this year even more impressive.

PO: This is a team that gave up only three goals after a 4–0 loss to Regina on 3 February. At one point they had shut teams out in seven straight games, and did the same in seven of their eight playoff matchups.

NF: They're really more like the team of the decade.

Honourable mention: Bears soccer, Pandas volleyball.

Best Transfer
Danny Bass Jr, Bears Football

The second-year out of Northern Michigan University made an immediate impact on the Bears defence. He finished second in Canada West in tackles with 60 and lead the conference with eight sacks.

RP: Going from playing football at any US college to the U of A isn't a move you make for glamour. However, for Bass the move to the CIS brought more playing time and respect as he ate up Canada West offences and bulked up an already impressive Bears defence.

Honourable mention: Bears basketball point guard CG Morrison.



FILE PHOTO: JASON CHIU, THE *FULCRUM* (CUP)

BOWING BEFORE THE BEST Lindsay McAlpine (16)'s talent makes her opponents fall to their knees before her.

Most Underrated Athlete
Jarret Wall, Bears Wreslting

Wall won a silver medal in the 72kg category at Nationals, and won the CIS Academic and Community Award for men's wrestling.

PO: Wall's silver at the CIS Championships was one short of his goal, but his solid season made him the life jacket—along with Anthony Kulak—for a wreslting program in danger of sinking. With his graduation, the Bears will have a tough time filling his singlet.

Honourable mention: Bears hockey goaltender Aaron Sorochan.

Most Overrated Athlete:
Cam Linke/Quade Armstrong, Bears Football

PO: Before the season, we heard that the Bears offence would be fine despite the loss of Darryl Salmon under centre. The running game and offensive line were great, but the team's two pivots didn't quite measure up. Neither was able to fill Salmon's shoes in a passing attack that was tailored to his game, and it wound up clipping the wings of the high-flying offence the team had displayed in previous years. This made for an easy unanimous decision.

NF: All I know is that they vastly underperformed and helped their team to too few wins and too many losses.

Most Improved Player
Alanna Donahue, Pandas Hockey

Donahue's 16 points were third amongst conference defencemen, and her 14 assists put her seventh overall in Canada West. She also boasted an impressive plus-25 rating and emerged as one of the top defenders for the Pandas.

TP: She took the reins as the go-to defenceman in her third year; she could be the most skilled player on the team.

Honourable mention: Pandas basketball senior Michelle Smith.

Most Improved Team
Pandas Basketball

The team won seven more games than last season, were in the top-ten of the rankings for almost the entire year and made the CIS final, where they came within four points of winning. They were a unanimous decision for this award.

RC: The Pandas finally managed to live up to all the potential we've seen in the last few seasons and go all the way to the National Final. They have a number of really strong third-year players who seem to have grown into their games and each other.

Best Interview
Ashley Wigg, Pandas Basketball

PO: The enigmatic point guard is one of the few interviews out there who'll admit dislike for an opponent, talk up a rivalry and say everything both good and bad that a reporter wants to hear.

JS: A passionate player, Wigg tells it like it is, and isn't at all shy about what she thinks.

Honourable mention: Tennis director Russ Sluchinski, Bears basketball head coach Don Horwood.

Best Senior
Lindsay McAlpine, Pandas Hockey

PO: She was the athlete of the year, how could she not win this as well?

Honourable Mention: Bears volleyball Libero Justin Wong, Michelle Smith and linebacker David Lowry

"Holy Shit" moment (astonishing in the good way)
Pandas basketball wins silver

RC: Who knew? At the beginning of the season, I wouldn't have expected the Pandas to win their division, let alone CIS silver; but they played consistently well all year, and in doing so, became one of the feel-good stories of the year.

WTF moment (astonishingly bad)
Bears hockey lose CW Final

RC: It's hard not to be a little startled when a team that's coming off back-to-back National Titles can't manage to win the Canada West spot. That was a good night for Saskatchewan fans, I'm sure.

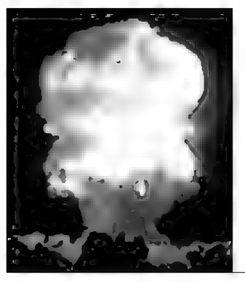
PO: I was expecting this team to go to Moncton for Nationals. I was expecting to go along and write more articles about them. Instead, both of us are disappoited, as they gave up a late goal on back-to-back nights and wound up being upset, at home.

Best Live Sport on Campus:
Bears Hockey

PO: The season was terrific from the season-opener against the Oiler rookies to the triple-overtime of the second game of the Canada West final. Those crowds spent most of their time on the edge of their seats—or would have if Clare Drake had seats. The Bears weren't as dominant as year past, and that meant closer games and more contests that had serious implications in the standings.

NF: An exhibition shootout between Rob Schremp and Dylan Stanley brought a packed house to its feet more than anything I've seen in university sports. I was legitimately ecstatic to be there for it.

OJ Simpson failed as a comedian, but these guys didn't



GATEWAY SPORTS STAFF

Sports Commentary

Not all entertainment in sports comes from what happens on the field or in the gym. Athletes crack up reporters with one-liners or make asses of themselves on an almost-daily basis. From Tyson Jones heckling a teammate during an interview to AC Green admitting to being the only virgin in the NBA, athletes make the funnies all the time. With that in mind, here are the *Gateway*'s picks for most amusing athletes—intentional or not.

Andrew Renfree

Mike Tyson always makes me chuckle in the same way that crazy uncle that everybody has does when he performs something lewd with the turkey at Thanksgiving. Tyson is the king of the amusing and more often than not, disturbing athletes.

So where to start with Mikey? There's his claim that he was the greatest boxer, which is clearly a moniker Muhammad Ali dibbed 40 years ago. Then Tyson got on a religious kick and finished an interview with this gem: "I want your heart, I want to eat your children. Praise be to Allah." Right.

But Tyson's antics often shift from funny to shockingly offensive. On more than one occasion during an interview, he has asked female reporters for sexual favours. Then there's that whole incident where he bit off part of Evander Holyfield's ear during a bout. Not even Hannibal Lector is that creepy.

However, the crown jewel in Tyson's repertoire has got to be the tattoo he got on his face a few years ago. Nothing says class like a face tattoo. In fact, four-out-of-five inmates say they're more likely to accept someone with a face-tat into their gang than someone without. For Tyson that could be beneficial because he already spent several years in prison for rape.

Robin Collum

Shaquille O'Neal doesn't get stoned and kicked off his team or threaten to eat someone else's children; he's good clean family fun. Normally, I would be pretty intimidated by a 7'0" man who outweighs me by about 200 pounds. Not Shaq, though, because I've seen *Kazaam*. Actually, that's a lie, but I've seen posters for it, and the actual tag lines for the movie included, "The world's most powerful genie has just met his match" and, "He's A Rappin' Genie With An Attitude ... And He's Ready For Slam-Dunk Fun!" Anyone who appears in a movie like that by choice—as opposed to the rest of the cast, who were probably one waitressing paycheque away from eviction—is pretty entertaining.

Perhaps my favourite Shaq antic, aside from when he handed George W Bush an empty ball to dribble, is his love of law and order. He's an honourary US Deputy Marshal, as well as an official Miami Beach reserve police officer. He's serious about it, and has used his name to bring attention to online crime against children, but there's an element of the ridiculous involved. His big busts so far include helping the police catch a man who hit his car by pursuing him "at a safe distance and speed" and according to correct police procedure.

The streets may be safer with him around, but our ears may not be. The Shaq Attack has also come out with a number of albums, including such greats as *Shaq Diesel*, *Shaq-Fu: Da Return* and *Shaq Presents his Superfriends*.

Janelle Sloychuk

With a full assortment of cameos, lawsuits, gambling losses and occurences dubbed as "incidents," Charles Barkley is by far one of the more entertaining athletes of this generation. Whether he's tossing men out of windows or misdirecting his spit onto prepubescent girls, Sir Charles lives without regret or apology and has bestowed unto the world a corresponding set of Chuck-isms that at times are "wronger than ketchup on pancakes."

While often dubbed a sexist and a racist, Charles is at least consistent in that he doesn't claim to be a role model while spouting off offensive rants and posing for his mug shot. Really though, Barkley's quotes leave no room for commentary, so in sparing you that much, here's a brief glance at some of the invaluable wisdom he has left us with over the years: "There are only three things women are better at than men: cleaning, cooking and having sex."

"You know they can't make the Double-Stuff Oreos anymore because fat people can't keep their mouths shut. I'm so sick of these fat people suing these companies. Stop eating!"

But nothing tops this one: "Man, there's nothing in the world that makes me as nervous as seeing white people dance."

Nick Frost

Have you ever lied to the cops? You know, just for a larf—something you could tell the grandkids to try and sound cool one day? "I swear, officer, that prostitute robbed me at knife-point and took that $300 from me!" Hell, even just for the rush one gets from lying to an authority figure?

Sure you haven't, and neither have I. Although, I'm sure if I did, I wouldn't be able to come up with a punchline nearly as funny as what Peter Worrell, former NHLer and currently unemployed tough guy, told the Pompano Beach 5-0 two-and-a-half years ago.

In the early morning hours of 6 December, 2004, Worrell was pulled over in an SUV owned by friend and former Florida Panther teammate, Andreas Lilja, for driving with expired tags. When the cops asked Worrell—a 6'7" Canadian-born black guy—to identify himself, he proceeded to tell them that he was in actuality his friend and former Florida Panther teammate Andreas Lilja—a 6'3" Swedish white guy. As the cops persistently tried to get Worrell to correctly identify himself, he persistently kept identifying himself as Lilja. Eventually, Worrell's passport was found in the SUV to confirm that he wasn't the about-as-white-as-one-can-get Scandinavian defenceman.

Worrell—or Lilja, depending on who you ask apparently—was eventually charged with driving with a suspended licence and resisting arrest without violence, with no jail time served. Of course, since the incident, Worrell has only played in a handful of NHL games, and Lilja was accused and acquitted, along with two Swedish teammates, of raping a woman in their home country. Or was it Worrell who did that? Shit, now I'm confused.

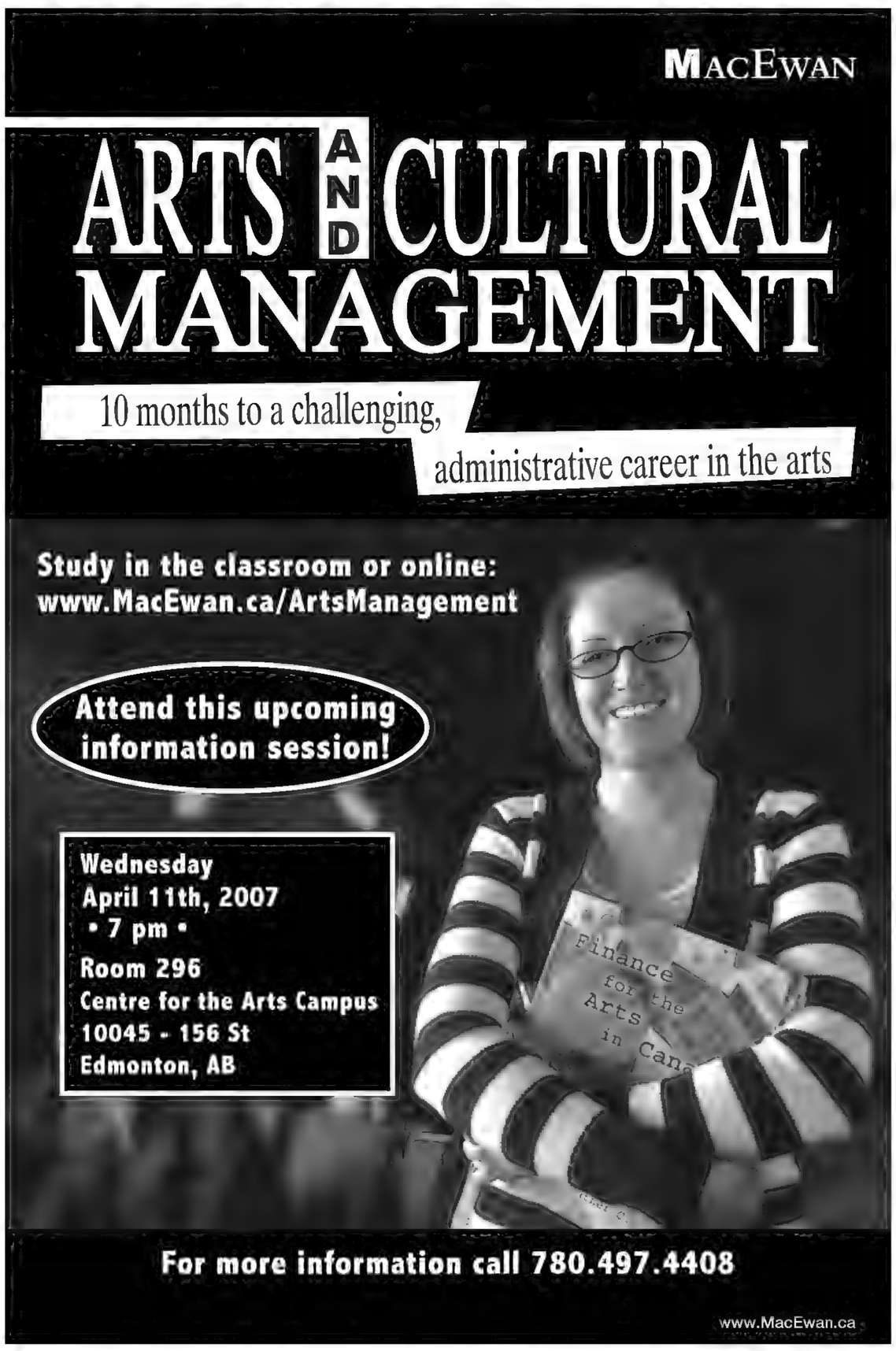
Mike Kendrick

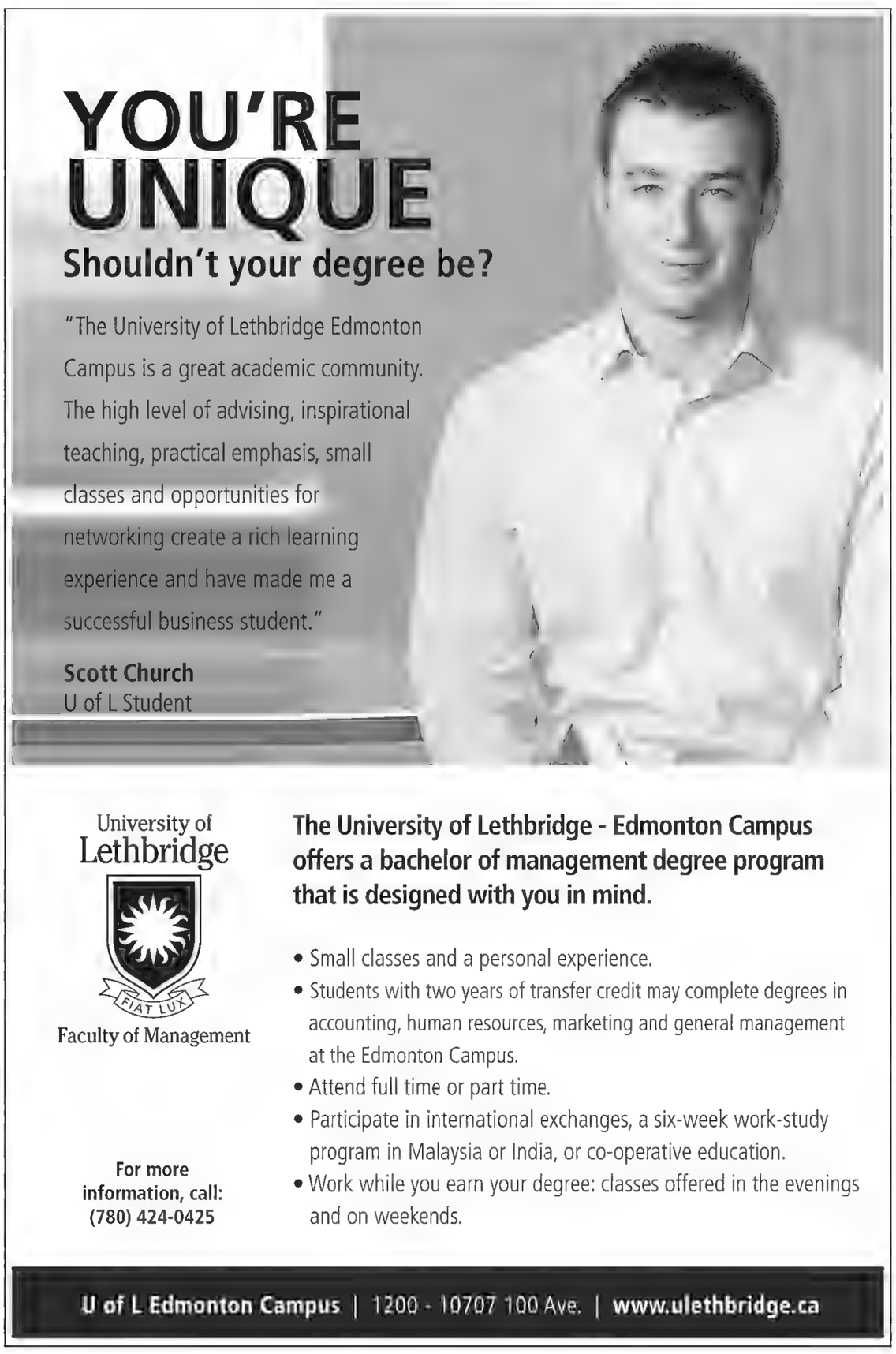
If professional hockey has had a player in recent memory to define the term "loose cannon," it's without a doubt, Theoren Fleury. This pint-sized firebrand tore up the league in the '90s and established himself as an imp-like force to be reckoned with. He proved to the heavyweights that size doesn't matter if you could convince the other team that you're completely bat-shit insane.

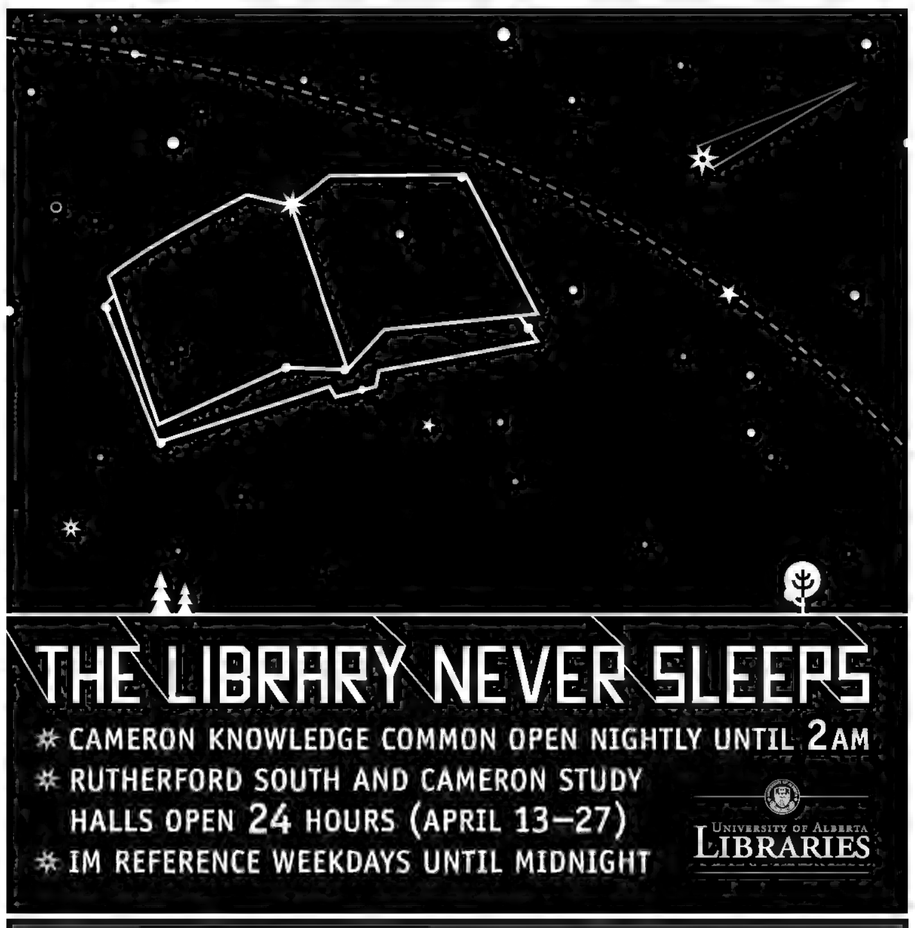
From his game winner in overtime against the Oilers in their 1991 playoff series, Fleury was all about making his presence known. I've never seen such a tiny little man slide so far across a hockey rink on his knees in celebration of a goal.

And his tricks didn't stop in the NHL, either. Having learned nothing from Tie Domi's escapades, Theo tried to pick a fight with a fan while playing in Belfast last season by climbing over the penalty box to speak with him on a more intimate level. By the end of the season, he had resigned from the league, citing poor and over-restrictive officiating as the cause of his leave.

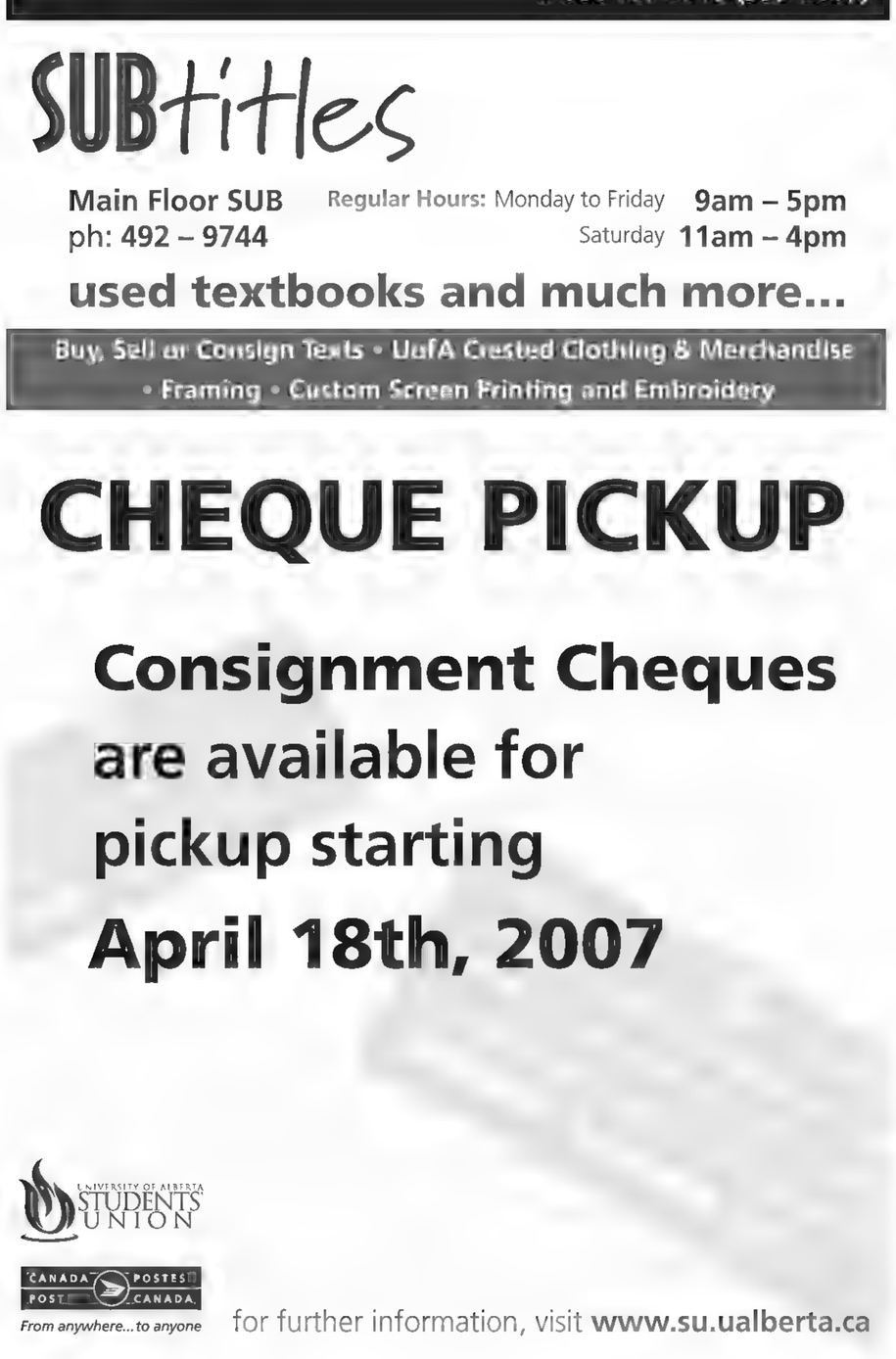
Perhaps the weirdest thing about this wacky winger is that he's since retired from the game and has expressed no desire to return to hockey. In fact, he owns a concrete sealing company in Calgary with new wife and his brother.











NHL made right move turning down second Summit Series



NICK FROST

Sports Commentary

"Who, these days, can't conjure up images of Bobby Clarke's toothless grin, Ken Dryden leaning on his stick in goal, Phil Esposito's lament to the nation after a loss in game four, or, at least, Foster Hewitt's legendary call of Paul Henderson's winning goal? Almost nobody."

I can be quite hard on the National Hockey League sometimes, particularly its commissioner, Gary Bettman. I've come down on the league in the past for many things, including its running joke of an all-star game and its constant expansion and relocation into the Deep South over the past decade. However, last week, when Bettman said *nyet* to Russian Ice Hockey Federation president Vladislav Tretiak, thus making the decision that his players wouldn't be partaking in a possible revival of the Summit Series between Canada and Russia to mark its 35-year anniversary, I felt compelled to give the NHL some dap where some dap was due—even though our reasons for not wanting to see this revival are likely completely different.

The two most likely reasons that the NHL—commissioner, team governors and owners—doesn't want its players participating in such a game is because Canada and Russia doing battle wouldn't appeal to an American audience—the one audience that still likely enjoys watching the WNBA more than it does hockey. Thus, there's no real capital to be earned. The second reason is that teams who have players involved in the game likely wouldn't want their star players suffering any major injuries at the hands of the *nouveau* Red Army.

However, my rationale for not wanting to see this happen is simple: we shouldn't be harkening back to past moments of glory to try and force similar ones in the present. Though I was still a good 15 years away from being born in 1972, as a Canadian who appreciates the rich tapestry of hockey history in this country, there are many emotions, images and sounds that aren't only sentimental for people of the time, but have become timeless, continuously reaching new generations of hockey faithful. Who, these days, can't conjure up images of Bobby Clarke's toothless grin, Ken Dryden leaning on his stick in goal, Phil Esposito's lament to the nation after a loss in game four, or, at least, Foster Hewitt's legendary call of Paul Henderson's winning goal? Almost nobody. Lame attempts to recreate something with such nostalgic value usually end up looking like just that—lame attempts—and, in a way, can somewhat devalue the original moment.

It's not even like the current Canadian superstars of the NHL need to be etched in the annals of hockey history for representing their country, anyway; most of them already are. The most likely candidates for a possible Canadian squad—should one have been put together—have probably already been a part of either the 2002 gold-medal winning Olympic team, or the 2004 World Cup of Hockey champions. Even those who weren't, like Sidney Crosby and Eric Staal, can still look forward to the 2010 Olympics to leave their mark in Canadian hockey history—and what better opportunity could there possibly be to win a gold medal than to do so right here on Canadian ice.

Also, icing a matchup between Canada and Russia these days—outside of the World Junior Hockey Championships, which features enough new players each year to keep it fresh—just doesn't have the same appeal that it once used to. If the Russian squad competing in the updated Summit Series was comprised of players from the NHL, the matchup in question seems very passé. Watching not only one match, but seven between the NHL's best from Canada and Russia—outside of, perhaps, the deciding game—wouldn't really be anything new and exciting, as the matchup could very easily translate into something equivalent to a World Championship or Olympic round-robin matchup—something that makes me say, "It's been done."

The only downside to the NHL's rejection is that it could further the rift that already stems from the Russian Ice Hockey Federation's refusal to sign the NHL's Player Transfer Agreement; they're the only nation offered the agreement to have not done so. However, I'm sure that it won't do as much damage as we think; the relationship between the two sides is already as unstable as Boris Yeltsin during happy hour.

Hearts only have room for one team



PAUL OWEN

Sports Commentary

I'm a bigamist. In my life, there are two bonds that control the way I act: the lesser, though not by much, is how I feel towards to Edmonton Oilers. The more important, unfortunately, isn't my parents, my girlfriend or even my geriatric, cancer-infested dog; it's the passion I have for the Winnipeg Jets. Just as it's socially unacceptable to love more than one woman at a time, those of us who partake in sports bigamy would've been stoned in olden times. Luckily, those days are over, but having two teams tear your heart apart is punishment enough.

Of course, unlike in real bigamy, where multiple parties are at potential risk of dreaded "hurt feelings," the only one set to feel pain from my situation is me: neither the Oil nor the Coyotes neé Jets care if I cheer for them. That's to say that they care about their fans, just not the individual fans who may be torn between them.

The Jets were the first sports team I ever knew existed. They were the first sporting event I ever attended. Teemu Selanne was my first idol, and I cried the day he tore his ACL. They were the team of my youth and exposed me to a world I had never known before—that of competitive athletics.

But, when I moved to Edmonton, and was greeted by a thriving NHL culture. The Oilers weren't good, but their fans were as passionate as any in Winnipeg had been. These were people who had narrowly avoided what I went through when the Jets left Winnipeg; they would understand my pain. Almost every Oilers game is on local TV—something that was far from true for the Jets in the mid-'90s—and my friends get together and watch Hemsky and company. It was hard to not feel an affinity for the Edmonton bunch.

I didn't truly understand that the Oilers were taking over from the Jets until the Flames made their Stanley Cup run in 2003/04. I refused to jump on the Flames bandwagon and cited a hate for all things Calgary in doing so. That's when I realized I had become an Edmontonian, and officially entered the realm of bigamy. I was thinking like an Oilers fan, and *cogito, ergo sum* I am an Oilers fan.

I'm also a hypocrit. Sports bigamy puts you in an impossible situation. You can't wholly commit to two teams that might meet in the playoffs. You can't cheer for two teams facing each other and use the excuse that "at least one of them will win." I'm a diehard; I suffer through the rough times and skip gaily through the good ones. The mixed feelings resulting from an Edmonton-Phoenix Western Final would probably make my head explode—thank God that both teams are terrible and won't make it happen anytime soon.

If you're a true fan, you can't pick and choose what you want to pay attention to. You pick a team and you follow it—no matter how often they trade away their best player. You celebrate through the good days and commiserate the bad ones. To devote yourself to two clubs at the same time is to neglect both. If you spend 13 hours per week following hockey, you can't give half of that time to each team nor can you double the time you spend following hockey.

You can't hedge your bets by cheering for two or four or every team in the league. Doing so takes all the joy out of being a fan and all of the attachment. Last year's Oilers playoff run meant considerably less to me because I was doing this. My buddy Dave was screaming "why God, why?" at the TV every time a Marc-André Bergeron slap-shot missed the net by three feet, and I was denying myself those same passionate feelings by splitting my loyalties.

If you're a sports bigamist, do yourself a favour and make the choice. End your misery. If your two teams were pitted in the league championship, who would you want to win? Make that decision and throw yourself into it. Buy memorabilia and apparel and call talk radio shows and bitch about the latest trade. Just nut-up and admit the colour of your blood. If you can't, it's probably yeller.

Curlers learning from the best

ANDREW RENFREE
Sports Staff

It may be called the Ford World Men's Curling Championship, but for Taylor Kimmett it might as well be the Academy Awards. The University of Alberta men's curling team skip couldn't ask for anything more than to sit in the stands at Rexall Place watching some of his heroes play live. But instead of searching for autographs, Kimmett is looking to bump into some big names and get some advice on game strategy from the best curlers in the world.

"On Saturday, I was down there with some of the [women's curling team], and we had a chance to talk to Russ Howard, the Olympic champion. Then we were in the Patch after having a few wobbly-pops and got to talk to Kevin Martin for 20 minutes or so," Kimmett said. "It was great just to talk to them; it's like meeting your favourite NHL player."

Kimmett said he was struck by how down-to-earth the curling gurus were despite their numerous accomplishments on the pebbled ice.

"They're the nicest guys around—they're not your typical celebrity; they don't brush you away; they're just normal guys," he said. "You can sit and talk and have a beer and talk curling."

Kimmett, along with Tristan Pidruchney (lead), Colin Jenkyns (second), Brandon Klassen (third) and Matt Willerton (alternate) just came from the Canadian University Curling Championships where they finished second to the University of Mantioba. It was a close match with Mantioba needing an extra end to pull out a 5–4 victory. Kimmett said it was tough to work so hard all year and come home with silver.

"We spent hours practising this year in preparation for Nationals: practising twice a week and playing once a week all the way from the start of October," he noted. "Toward the end we even started practising on Sunday's as well, so it was a huge time commitment."

However, despite loss in the final, Kimmett felt that they may have exceeded expectations this season, and that he didn't really think they'd make it as far as they did.

"I don't want to say it was a surprise that we did as well as we did, but it's really validated all the work that we did all season, and all the hard work that our coach did," he said. "The [silver medal] was bittersweet. It was disappointing to lose but I was proud of the way we played—our coach's expectation was that we could go there and win, but I didn't believe it until we got there and were in control of most of our games."

Curling is currently a club sport at the U of A, but since CIS decided to add it as a championship sport the U of A has responded by making them a full varsity sport next year. Preparations are being made to ensure that Alberta's transition to CIS is a smooth one, but the team will have different faces as Kimmett is graduating. There should be some prominent curling talent to fill this void, though.

"It'll be awesome to have CIS support next year," he mentioned. "It's my understanding that some pretty high profile players are coming to the U of A. There's some good players coming in, so the team will definitely change."

Kimmett is graduating with a Bachelor of Commerce this year, and will be leaving the curling program. He was set to hang up his broom for good, but Alberta's strong performance this season may have convinced Kimmett to consider playing at another level.

"I said to my teammates [after the season] that it may be my last shot at competitive curling," he said. "I just wanted to go and have fun but I didn't expect the success we've had, so maybe I'll take a couple shots at the playdowns with another team."



FILE PHOTO : JACOB EDENLOFF

CURLERS IN DA HOUSE The Ford World Curling Championships have given U of A curlers a chance to mingle with some of the planet's best rock-throwers.

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The *Gateway* is looking for a Sports Editor

- The **Sports Editor's*** term runs from 1 May 2006 to 30 April 2007. The full-time paid portion of the job runs from mid-August to the end of April. Additionally, six issues of the *Gateway* will be produced over the summer months. The Sports Editor is expected to train on at least three of the six summer issues (unless granted leave by the hiring committee) for an honorarium of $100/issue. In the full-time months, the position's salary is $1281.88 per month.



The *Gateway* is also looking for a few part-time employees

- The **Online Coordinator*** will be responsible for keeping the *Gateway*'s new website slick, sexy and not libellous. Hours are flexible, but free Monday and Wednesday nights are a must. Remittance is $419.60 per month.
- Two **Circulation PALs*** will deliver the *Gateway* to campus and beyond. Free Tuesday and Thursday mornings and afternoons are a must as is a driver's licence and clean driver's abstract. Remittance is $329.96 per month.

Sound fun? Want to join the deathship?

Then please submit a resumé and cover letter, to Business Manager Steve Smith or Editor-in-Chief Matt Frehner by **NOON Thursday, 5 April**.

Applications can be submitted by e-mail (**biz@gateway.ualberta.ca** or **eic@gateway.ualberta.ca**) or in hardcopy (**Room 3-04 Students' Union Building**).

* For information and rundown of the complete job descriptions (subject to change) e-mail **eic@gateway.ualberta.ca**

Additionally ...

The *Gateway* is holding a special general meeting to choose its two (2) 2007/08 volunteer-staff board of directors representatives

- The SGM will take place on Thursday, 12 April at 4pm. All volunteer staff are asked to attend if possible.
- If you're interested in running, you must have had five (5) contributions to the *Gateway* in the last year and have opted-in as a staff member to Editor-in-Chief Matt Frehner. You can opt-in at any point before the meeting.

THE GATEWAY

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Are you a frontman? A local indie-rock band that plays original material is looking for a front man. Our influences range from the Cash, Kinks,and Stones to the Libertines,Strokes and Oasis. E-mail dgault15@gmail.com for an audition.

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Legal Secretary - Busy law office looking for full time summer student for legal secretary position. Option to work part time during next school year. Ideal candidate will be in pre-law program looking for law firm experience. E-mail resumé to jkowalchuk@penmurlaw.com.

Summer Work in St.Albert. Looking for hard-working students. Work outside, with friends, and make a good wage. Contact Drew 919-9345 kingkungpow@notmail.com

Energetic, team oriented person required for OSC Director. Call Karen at 437-5895.

Want to work outside with great people this summer? Greentech Landscapes is looking for men and women landscapers and lawn maintenance crew. Call Trevor @ 435-3309 or gcland@telus.net

Clifford E. Lee Nature Sanctuary (located 15 min SW Edmonton) is hiring a post secondary student for maintenance/interpretive work. 14 weeks commence 1 May 2007. Earn up to $15/hr based on experience and initiative. Must be returning to school in fall. Mail resumé to Lee Nature Sanctuary Society, #7- 51228 Range Rd. 264 Spruce Grove, AB. T7Y 1E7.

Work on a bee farm from April to August. Located one hour from Edmonton. Experience preferred but not necessary. Excellent wages and lodging provided. Send resumé to joyklw@agt.net

EMPLOYMENT - PART TIME

Alta Care Resources is looking for caring and energetic people to work with Edmonton children and youth. Flexible schedules, free training, starts at $15/hr, price less experience. Please call Brandi Smith 451-6040 ext 230, brands@telus.net, www.altacareresources.com

Golden West Golf Course is now accepting applications for a Pro shop, Restaurant and Grounds positions. Golf privileges with employment. Apply at 16410 137 Ave or jobs@goldenwestgolf.com

I am looking for a partner who will increase the business for my online store deservedgifts.com. No investment required. Earn 50 per cent on profits. robinregan@notmail.com or call 429-4056

After school care required for children aged 12 and 10. Requires responsible person to pick children up from Begravia School at 11605 74 Avenue and walk short distance to home. Care required from 7:35pm to 9pm except Thurs. from 2:20pm to 5pm. If available only on certain days, will consider. Call Kathy 439-3182.

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Excellent summer employment with Landscaping Co. Bobcat Operators/Labourers for 07 season. Experience an asset but will train. Start $13-22/hour. 780-903-6066

Summer Project Coordinator for a place-based learning program for Indigenous youth (social/ecological focus) $16-$17.50/hr, 14 May-31 Aug, experience leading youth, knowledge of Aboriginal cultural protocols, Class 5, reliable transportation, related post-secondary, Closing Date 20Apr. Details, e-mail tracyf@nait.ca

Need summer work?Commercial/residential roofing helpers needed. Starting wage $15/hr. Call 780-674-0880.

PERSONALS

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AVALANCHE OF PANCAKES

The following characters asked for too much money for the next season

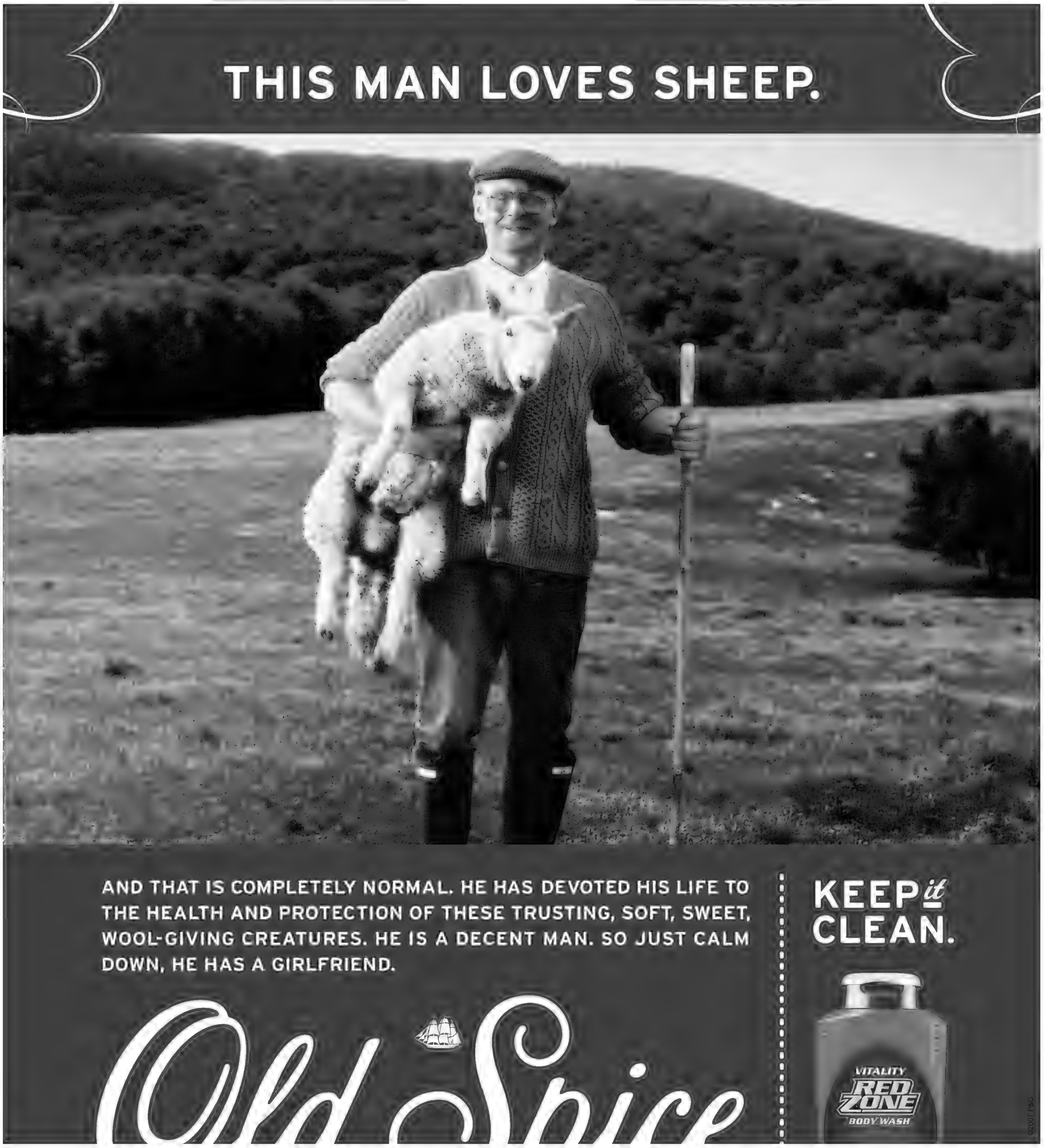
Matt Frenner was violently raped to death by wolves. Wolves taking penile-enlargement drugs to increase the girth of their massive, furry wolf-cocks. Also, said cocks were covered in barbs and not sauce.

Chloé Fedio was tossed from an airplane amidst in hand-to-hand combat with her nemesis, Fnoé Cedio. Her paracnute had been tampered with by a double agent that had infiltrated the organization.

Amanda Ashwas slain by the North Saskatchewan River Killer. She had foolishly decided to have sex with the local quarterback in a tent by the riverside.

Krystina Sulatycki was tragically killed in the construction of the worlds largest telephoto lens.

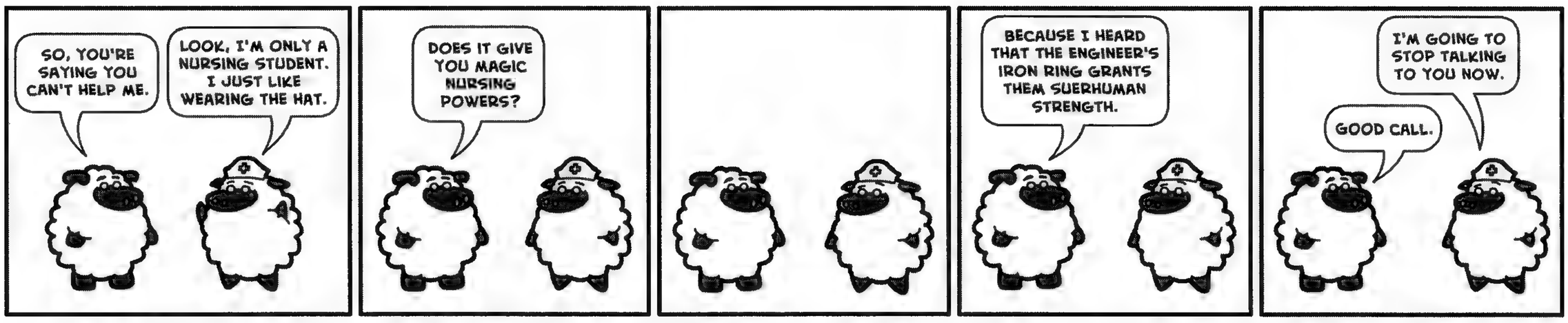
And Scott Liwa? Auto-erotic asphyxiation.



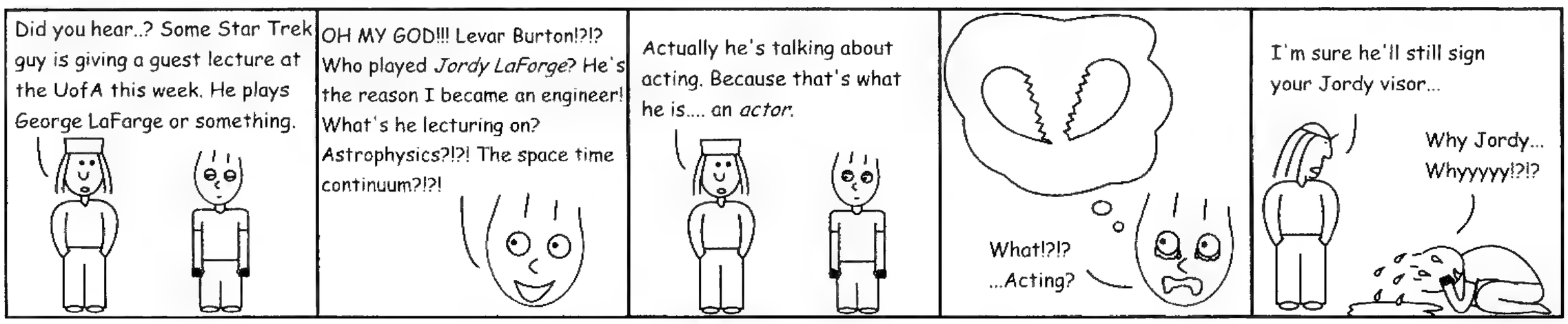
PEANUT & CIRCLE by Chris Krause



EWE OF A by Norman Lau



PITY MARKS by Steve Garner



COMIC JAM by Matt Lui and the Comic Book Appreciation Society



DINOSAUR TOGETHER by Chris Yip



QUEER by Marie-Annick Jean



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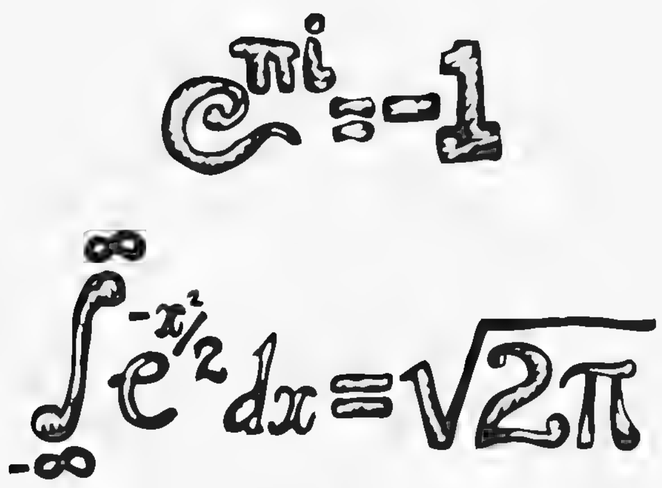
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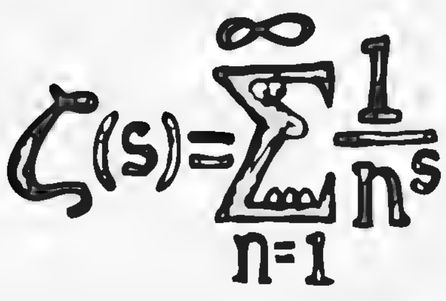
Carmen & Markus



Math 101, 102, 113/114, 115, 120/125, 201, 209, 300
Chem 102/105, 263
Stat 141, 151, 235
Phys 126, 230
CivE 270
Biol 107
EnPh 131
EnCmp 100







Length: *4 hrs*

Fee: *$40*
(includes 4 hour class & review package with solutions)

Registration:
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on the following days:

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Tuesday-Friday, 10 -13 April

Monday-Friday, 16-20 April

Carmen & Markus

492-6272 / masc@ualberta.ca

Schedule: www.ualberta.ca/~masc

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'Plants losses spur summer business for RATT

'PLANT • CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

At the end of 2006, the Powerplant had lost $209 807, following the implementation of a new business model that saw the elimination of mid-week liquor sales and the introduction of a buffet, which has received lukewarm response from patrons and has subsequently been scaled back.

Historically, the SU has kept the Powerplant open during the summer months since acquiring control over the bar from the Graduate Students' Association in 1997. During this time, operations at RATT ceased during the summer. However, this year RATT will remain open for spring and summer sessions to serve those on campus, a decision that Cunningham explained was made based on finances and logistics.

"Looking at the numbers of the success of the Powerplant over the summers and carrying on with the momentum we've had this year with RATT, we felt that would probably be the best choice," Cunningham stated. "Also, looking at where people are during the summer time, most are either in [SUB], the General Services Building, Van Vliet or CAB. So it's kind of all centred around [SUB]. From a flow perspective it just made more sense."

Due to a stipulation that restricts SU employees from directly speaking to the press regarding SU policy, Dave Young, manager of RATT, spoke with the *Gateway* via e-mail regarding this change.

While Young wasn't willing to comment on the Powerplant's closure, he was excited about the success RATT has had this year and hoped it would carry on through the summer and into the 2007/08 academic year.

"Students seem to have bought into the value and enjoyment of having a fun campus pub," Young wrote. "More business opportunity and the potential for more students to enjoy the room is far from a worry and is quite exciting."

Council finalized the 2007/08 budget Tuesday night, which set the Powerplant at a $100 000 deficit next year. But, it was pointed out that this was a worst-case scenario and also factored in the cost of shutting down operations for the summer as well as the renovations that the SU is planning.

Rumours of the Powerplant ceasing operations under its current business model due the losses it has incurred have existed for most of the year. Whether the SU would close the bar completely or reinvent the space with a different purpose is still unknown, as the Executive and Council has been somewhat tight-lipped on the topic.

While the SU was still not willing to comment on the status of the Powerplant come next year, Cunningham alluded to the direction that the Executive is pursuing.



FILE PHOTO: MATT FREHNER

SUMMER AT THE TOP Students will be trading the patio for the view in May.

"We do have [a long-term plan], but we're in the midst of securing financing for the project. I'm hesitant to really say much on the project, but there is an increasing demand for student space," he explained. "The Students' Union has always pressured the University to address student space here on campus. There might be a push in that direction. It's going to change the business model, but to what extent remains to be seen."

Cunningham hoped that the SU would be ready to release their plan for the 'Plant by the end of the term, but was unsure if that would be possible.

"Something will definitely be released by the end of the summer," he said.

STREETERS

A recent UN report said climate change could threaten between 20–30 per cent of the world's species into extinction.

What species do you think the earth could do without?



Allyson Epp
Science II

Mosquitos. They're really really annoying. They make you itchy. I could do without annoying people, too.



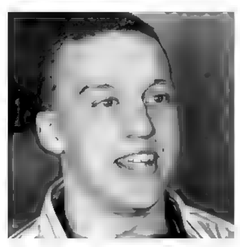
Jesse Hahn
Arts

I love all species. That's the bottom line.



Dianne Sazon
Industrial Design IV

Olives. They're a little disgusting.



Wyatt Young
Arts I

The red panda. [That doesn't exist.] Exactly. It's red, it's Communist. Communism equals bad, unless it's Communist Russia, because that's always good.

Compiled and photographed by Steve Smith and Krystina Sulatycki



New Caledonian crows found to be incredibly handy with tools

SARAH TREIT
News Writer

Sophisticated tool use is rarely seen in nature. Many animals manipulate objects to reach a goal—such as dropping a rock on an egg—but this is distinctly less complex than the tool use seen in primates. However, new research shows that some feathered revolutionaries might just be in the same league.

Dr Alex Kacelnik of Oxford University presented a talk at the University of Alberta Faculty Club last Thursday on his observations of tool use in New Caledonian crows. Kacelnik said that these animals display unique tool-using abilities that more closely resemble the complexity seen in primates and humans.

"Some species go beyond all of these kinds of operations, and it's these species that are going to be interesting," Kacelnik asserted.

Not only can these crows use tools, he said, but they can also make tools.

In their natural habitat on the island of New Caledonia, adult crows use and manipulate a variety of tools including twigs, barbed sticks and vine leaves in order to obtain their food.

To further examine their tool-using skills, Kacelnik brought two of these crows back to Oxford.

"As soon as we brought them into the lab they started to modify substrates to make tools," Kacelnik revealed.

Kacelnik tested the crows' abilities to use tools for obtaining food from a tube too long to reach with their beaks. The birds not only selected tools that matched the tube in length and necessary diameter, but even bent and otherwise modified the available materials to suit their needs.

> **"It looks like something happened by which this particular species reinvented something which is crucial for tool use."**
>
> **DR ALEX KACELNIK, OXFORD UNIVERSITY**

In some tests the crows were able to use a sequence of tools in a seemingly deliberate manner—they would make use of one tool in order to obtain another tool which was then used to obtain the third and final tool necessary to get food. This kind of tertiary tool use is very rare in animals.

"The use of more than one tool for one job is considered to be a big accomplishment ... [that may] require foresight, understanding of relations among tools and behavioural coordination," Kacelnik said.

He said that the level of sophistication seen in these animals is surprising considering that most other birds are non-tool users; a puzzling evolutionary divergence.

"It looks like something happened by which this particular species reinvented something which is crucial for tool use," Kacelnik suggested.

Although researchers don't know what the conditions behind the evolutionary reinvention were, they're currently attempting to characterize the extent to which these behaviours are socially transmitted or genetically determined.

Kacelnik explained that, in the wild, juvenile New Caledonian crows pay close attention to the skilled behaviours of their parents while learning how to obtain food.

Crows reared in the lab without exposure to adult crows still displayed tool using behaviour; however, they weren't as skilled.

This suggests that this behaviour is somewhat genetically determined, but that there still may be social learning involved.

"[This] raises the possibility of social transmission of the skill, and the existence of culture for the use of tools," Kacelnik proposed.

Students embark on ride for cancer

Following graduation, motorcyclists hope to raise a dollar per kilometre for the Kids Cancer Care Foundation of Alberta and beat unofficial world record

RYAN HEISE
Online Coordinator

Justin and Rob Noble definitely don't look like your stereotypical motorcyclists. They won't be seen strutting around in leather jackets, and neither have a mess of tattoos down their arms. Simply put, the two Engineering students would easily blend into any crowd on campus. But looks can be deceiving.

Following their graduation this April, Justin and Rob will be joining their father, Sean, and older brother, Ryan, to ride the 27 000 kilometres from Ushuaia, Argentina to Dead Horse, Alaska—essentially traversing the whole of the Western hemisphere.

"We usually do a trip—like a hiking trip—every year," Justin explained. "So we decided to do a motorcycle ride and it just got bigger and bigger as we thought about what we wanted to do."

Their decision to go on a long trip solidified as the family discovered the record set by Kevin and Julia Sanders in September of 2003. The couple rode from Dead Horse to Ushuaia in 35 days. The Nobles are going to take a very similar route but travel north from Argentina. Also, they plan to shave a full three days off of the trip, completing it from 6 May to 6 June and setting a new record.

But while all four Nobles are avid motorcyclists, the trip is only partially about the ride itself. They plan to use their journey across the Americas as a fundraiser for the Kids Cancer Care Foundation of Alberta (KCCFA). They chose the organization as two of Justin's childhood friends were diagnosed with cancer and received support from KCCFA. Their goal is to raise a dollar per kilometre travelled per rider, for a grand total of $108 000.

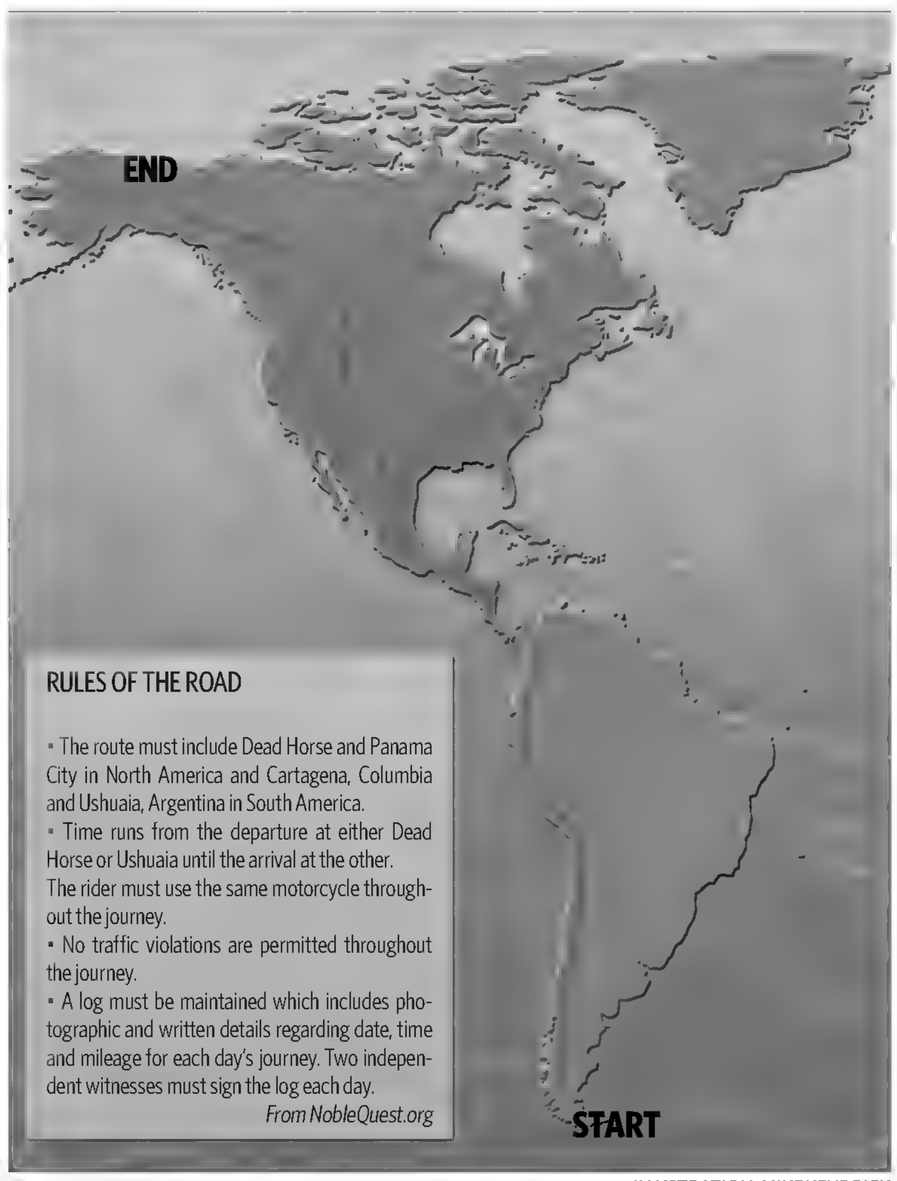


ILLUSTRATION: MIKE KENDRICK

LONG WAY ROUND The Nobles hope to raise $108 000 with their journey.

They're currently soliciting most of their donations via their website—NobleQuest.org—but are also planning a large fundraiser that will take place when the ride enters Alberta.

"One of our major fundraising drives is the ride between Coutts, which is the border crossing, and Red Deer," Justin said. "We had a booth set up at the Edmonton Motorcycle Show trying to get people to ride along with us and we're just asking them to raise a dollar for every kilometre between wherever they ride."

While he knows that completing the long journey will difficult, Rob is confident that he, his brothers and father will be able to break the record.

"We're planning to do it; we'll beat [the record]."



DCA supplier defends drug sales

DCA • CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Despite complications that may arise due to a lethal reaction between existing cancer medications and the DCA compound, Tassano said people are purchasing DCA from his site because they can't get it elsewhere, and it's their last hope.

"Dr Michelakis has essentially shut off Canadian supplies, and it is not available for veterinary use anywhere. I had a guy tell me when he tried to buy DCA for his dog, the supplier basically told him to get lost," Tassano said.

Tassano went on to say that side effects of human DCA use arise when high rates are used over long periods.

"Who wouldn't try a therapy that might decimate their tumor for 90 cents a day and have no observable side effects? Especially when they have been declared terminally ill," he said.

Although it's too early to tell what effect DCA has had on his customers, Tassano said he sees hope in the forthcoming possibility of clinical trials testing the compound on humans with cancer, because Michelakis and his team have already completed the first two phases of testing by giving it to humans with metabolic disorders.

"It has been used on humans in many tests. That is why Dr Michelakis can skip phase-one studies. DCA is being used in phase-three studies already," Tassano said.

> **"All businesses must be run for a profit. That was an issue I had to wrestle with at the beginning of this."**
>
> **JIM TASSANO**

Michelakis was quoted in a previous article by *Edmonton Journal* health writer, Jodie Sinnema, as having said that when these DCA trials were performed on adults with metabolic diseases, many had developed severe peripheral neuropathy; damage to their peripheral nerves caused imbalance and finger numbness, and had to discontinue its [DCA's] use.

Even though these side effects are detrimental, Tassano stressed that they are minute when compared to those of chemotherapy.

"Dr Michelakis stated on television that 'when you take chemotherapy, you get nauseated because the drug kills the stomach cells, or your heart cells dysfunction because the drug kills your heart cells, or your skin, or you lose your hair.' None of these things appear to be affected by DCA," Tassano said.

But along with Michelakis, a large number of health professionals have shunned Tassano and his website due to the moral implications of his actions; an issue even Tassano has struggled with.

"All businesses must be run for a profit. That was an issue I had to wrestle with at the beginning of this," Tassano said. "I realized that it had to be that way. Major pharmaceutical companies showed no interest in developing DCA because there is no profit in it. Whoever sells DCA must make a profit, or there will be no incentive."

But despite harsh criticisms, Tassano remains loyal to his belief that the decision to take DCA should be up to the individual, and not the government.

"I see two paths that we as a society must take. One is the long and proper process of clinical trials. However, those people who cannot survive following that path must be allowed an alternate path, one of personal choice."

NEWS BRIEF

Written by Kate Redfern

EFFECTS OF PARKLAND STRIKE ON STUDENTS REMAINS TO BE SEEN

The Parkland School District strike, which began on 16 February and kept students out of class for a month before teachers and the school board agreed to arbitration, has some questioning whether students will be ready for their final exams come June. However, others maintain that teachers had a right to hold the strike.

"The two big issues are salary and working conditions. For every hour in front of classes, teachers usually spend another hour preparing," said Frank Bruseker, President of the Alberta Teachers' Association.

Bruseker believes strongly in teachers' right to strike and doesn't feel that teachers are an "essential service" in the same way that firefighters or police officers are. The extended nature of the strike has some parents rallying to restrict teachers from striking, but limiting the time allowed to strike doesn't sit well with him.

"You can't put in legislation that says you can only strike for two or three weeks," Bruseker said, predicting that school boards would simply wait the teachers out.

But after a month of classes lost, some wonder how students facing Provincial Achievement Tests and Diploma exams will fare on their in June.

"One month is quite a bit of time for kids to be out of school," said third-year education student Rachel Tomalty. "So it's not very fair for them. But on the other side, teachers could be saying that their contract isn't very fair. There's no easy way to come to an agreement that pleases both sides."

"It shouldn't have got to go that long, but it had to happen," Jana Nehring, President of the University of Alberta's Education Students Association said. "[This] is going to push students behind and it's going to affect the next year."

Several other school districts are approaching the time to renew contracts and Nehring predicts there will be more strikes coming up over the next year.

Bruseker agreed that more strikes are on the horizon.

"There are two more locals that have taken out strike notice—Buffalo Trail and Wild Rose."

Bruseker was confident that students writing PATs and Diplomas this year would still be well prepared, despite some questions about whether students can catch up after a month with no classes.

"I expect what teachers will do is stick to the core curriculum," he said, explaining that no supplemental material will be covered, but students will still be learning what they need to sit their exams.

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University funding ethics put under the microscope

FUNDING • CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

However, Les Hagen, executive director of the anti-smoking group Action on Smoking & Health, argued that this should've been implemented long ago, and called for a "campus-wide policy against tobacco industry funding."

"What I have a problem with is a publicly funded academic institution accepting funding from a rogue industry. In my view the University is out of step with community standards, and it's out of step with the times," Hagen said, pointing to the fact that tabacco kills and its revenue shouldn't be used to research health.

"In my view, for the same reason that you wouldn't take funding from the Klu Klux Klan for a race-relations program, you should not accept tobacco industry funding for any health research."

Els further argued that this restriction of funding wasn't a matter of academic freedom.

"We know that the tobacco industry has a very long track record in concealing information when it comes to the potential risks of smoking. There's a long list of tobacco industry obfuscating the science in terms of the risks of smoking," Els said.

While Phillips conceded that tobacco companies have manipulated research in the past, he argued that many of those instances occurred decades ago and that the extent isn't greater in this particular industry than any other.

"You can't pick up the papers for a week without seeing some new scandal about pharmaceutical companies hiding information," he said. "There's certainly plenty of evidence that energy companies do that—governments do that as a matter of course. There's obviously nothing unique about that."

> **"In my view, for the same reason that you wouldn't take funding from the Ku Klux Klan for a race-relations program, you should not accept tobacco industry fudning for any health research."**
>
> **LES HAGEN, ANTI-SMOKING ACTIVIST**

Phillips emphasized that his grant was unrestricted by the industry that provided it, meaning that experiments are done at his own prerogative and that the funder won't see the results of until they're made public. His grant is budgeted to fund research until the end of 2009.

As of press time, the University Administration wasn't available to comment on whether the BoG would pursue a campus-wide tobacco-industry funding ban, but Nugent said that the Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry wouldn't pressure the University to adopt their policy.

"Our concern is with our own faculty. We leave it to other faculties to determine their own policy," Nugent said.

U of A nurses help in Uganda

Angela Heino and Bonnie Fournier have both choosen to use their medical expertise towards helping improve the living conditions of Ugandan kids

JENNIFER HUYGEN
News Writer

University of Alberta nurses have been crossing borders and transferring their skills as health-care workers to Africa.

Angela Heino, 30, is currently in the process of establishing a health-care clinic in the Ugandan villages of Bufukhula and Makhai with help from Canadian Food for the Hungry International (CFHI). Heino has been in southern Uganda since 10 March, 2007, setting up new medical equipment and teaching villagers about topics such as HIV/AIDS care, nutrition and sanitation.

"Angela [is] working on the medical side of things because she's a trained nurse," said Jodi Martens, Marketing and Communications Manager for CFHI. "[She's] taking that equipment, dividing it between two different villages and setting up a medical clinic."

The *Gateway* was unable to contact Heino, but Martens described how Heino's work is contributing to integrated development practices in the more impoverished areas of the country.

"[Our work] provides [the Ugandan children] with education, health care, nutrition, clothes," Martens stated. "[CFHI addresses] physical needs, educational needs, spiritual needs that the whole community deals with."

Uganda is a land-locked country in Eastern Africa and is home to approximately 27.6 million people. Human rights abuses in Uganda first became a major concern during the military rule of Idi Amin who held power from 1971–1979. Under his rule, approximately 300 000 people died. Since the mid-1980s, there's been an increased recognition of human rights in Uganda, and the political situation is currently less tense in the southern half of the country.

> **"For the past 20 years, there's been a civil war and there are rebels that abduct children and take them in and they either become child soldiers, sex slaves or porters."**
>
> **BONNIER FOURNIER, THE CHILD IS INNOCENT**

However, reports of human rights abuses in the northern part of Uganda continue to be heard of from both the country's prime rebel group, the Lord's Resistance Army (LRA) and the Ugandan army. Peace talks between the government and the Lord's Resistance Army are currently underway.

Echoing Heino's experiences is Bonnie Fournier, a U of A graduate with master's degree in Science. Upon her return from Uganda in 2003, where she completed her degree studying HIV with nurses, she realized the potential for change and founded a not-for-profit organization, The Child is Innocent, which is committed to addressing the issue of "night commuters" in northern Uganda. Between 20 000–40 000 children are believed to commute every night and they generally are children aged seven to 18 who risk abduction in their everyday lives by the LRA.

"For the past 20 years, there's been a civil war and there are rebels that abduct children and take them in and they either become child soldiers, sex slaves or porters," Fournier explained.

"What these children do to escape the risk of being abducted by the rebels is they commute every single night either from their village or from a camp," she said. "About two million people in Northern Uganda are living in these internally-displaced-persons camps."

Fournier will be returning to Uganda in May 2007 to implement a peer education program training local youth in peace and conflict resolution modules.

She further acknowledged that while the situation in Uganda is serious, little is known in Edmonton about its political and humanitarian circumstances.

"It's the way the media portrays things, and so what's hot now [are] issues in Iraq and Afghanistan and that's kind of what dictated the media," Fournier said. "Oftentimes these other long-term small conflicts don't get as much attention."

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COUNCIL FORUM

Written by Scott Lilwall

Students' Council meets every second Tuesday in the Council Chambers in University Hall at 6pm. Council meetings are open to all students. The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, 10 April.

BUDGET TIME

The first order of business for Students' Council was to vote on the final budget for the 2007/08 year. While student fees will not be increasing, a number of Students' Union businesses will have prices raised to increase revenues. SUBMart, SUBTitles, RATT and Juicy are among the businesses whose prices will increase by an average of five per cent.

The budget has a number of increased expenses, including an added $2000 to the annual salary of the Students' Union's Chief Returning Officer, and just over $80 000 to renovate the front counter area of L' Express. The Powerplant, which will be closed over the summer and possibly undergo renovations, is budgeted for a loss of about $100 000 for the 2007/08 budget, although SU Vice-President (Operations and Finance) Chris Cunningham said that it's impossible to know exactly what the financial situation of the Powerplant will be next year, and that the loss is considered a worst-case scenario. (For more on the Powerplant closure, please see story on front page.)

In the end, the SU budget ran at a deficit of $24 995 for the 2007/08 year. While usually required to present a balanced budget, Council passed a motion at an earlier meeting that allowed the organization to run a deficit of no more than $25 000. The budget passed easily.

CENSURE MOTION

A motion was brought by Campus Saint Jean Councillor Brittany Bugler and Science Councillor Theresa Chapman that called for Council to censure Cunningham. She cited Cunningham's absence from a number of board meetings for groups receiving dedicated fees. As well, they expressed displeasure with the lateness of the Budget and Finance Committee presenting budget principles to Council, arguing that it was Cunningham's responsibility to make sure the principles were ready in due time. Bugler explained that the measure was brought forward not as a punishment, but just to have the concerns expressed in Council.

Most councillors expressed that they didn't support the motion, saying that the blame for the late presentation of the principles shouldn't be attributed to Cunningham alone. Science Councillor Sylvia Shamanna suggested an amendment that would extend the censure to the whole BFC, which was defeated by a close vote. The final decision was soundly defeated, with only once councillor voting in favour of the censure.

QUESTION PERIOD

Question Period was next on the list, with a couple of questions aimed at Vice-President (External) Dave Cournoyer on if the upcoming U-Pass would be eligible for a federal income tax refund and when the program would be put in place. Cournoyer confirmed that the U-Pass would be eligible for a tax refund, and that the transit pass would be ready to go by 1 September.

Arts Councillor Al-Amyn Sumar, who sported a Calgary Flames jersey, was asked when he was going planning to change out of the offending colours. Sumar scolded Edmonton fans for being fair-weather fans and noted that his "Mommy likes it." In the end, however, the Flames lost 4–3 to the Colorado Avalanche, and Sumar presumably spend the rest of the evening in tears.

Councillor Steven Dollansky was asked how the search for next year's CRO and Speaker were going, as both positions will be empty at the end of this year. Dollansky said that neither position had an abundance of applicants so far, and that the positions would be advertised heavily in an effort to "touch as many people as we can." Council collectively twittered.

LIGHTNING ROUND

A slew of political policies were then tackled by Council. Second readings for the Research policy, which directed the SU to advocate undergraduate studies as being as high a priority for the University as research is, and the Capital Projects-Student Fees policy, which expresses the opinion that tuition shouldn't be used to fund capital projects, were both passed with little debate.

A policy that would lobby the University to look into ways to make housing more affordable students was subject to a few wording amendments, as Board of Governors Representitive Chris Samuel said the previous form, which he wrote, seemed like it was "written by a retarded orangutang." After the problem was rectified, the policy passed.

Cournoyer then brought forward a policy proposal that would call on the University to develop a predictable tuition policy that made postsecondary education possible for anyone and that recognizes that tuition is only one of many costs associated with education. He then invited anyone who opposed the measure to take it up with his two friends, as he pulled out Spider-Man and the Incredible Hulk action figures and made exaggerated grunting noises. A clearly intimidated Council passed the policy by a wide margin.

Two more polices were debated. One that directed Council to lobby against any further increases to the International Differential, which is paid by international students, was passed without little opposition. So too was a measure to encourage the SU to become more environmentally friendly and would direct it to encourage the University to do the same.

Council then adjourned for the night.



KRYSTINA SULATYCKI

COUNCIL CONTROVERSY Councillor Bugler (left) criticized VP (Operations and Finance) Cunningham's performance.

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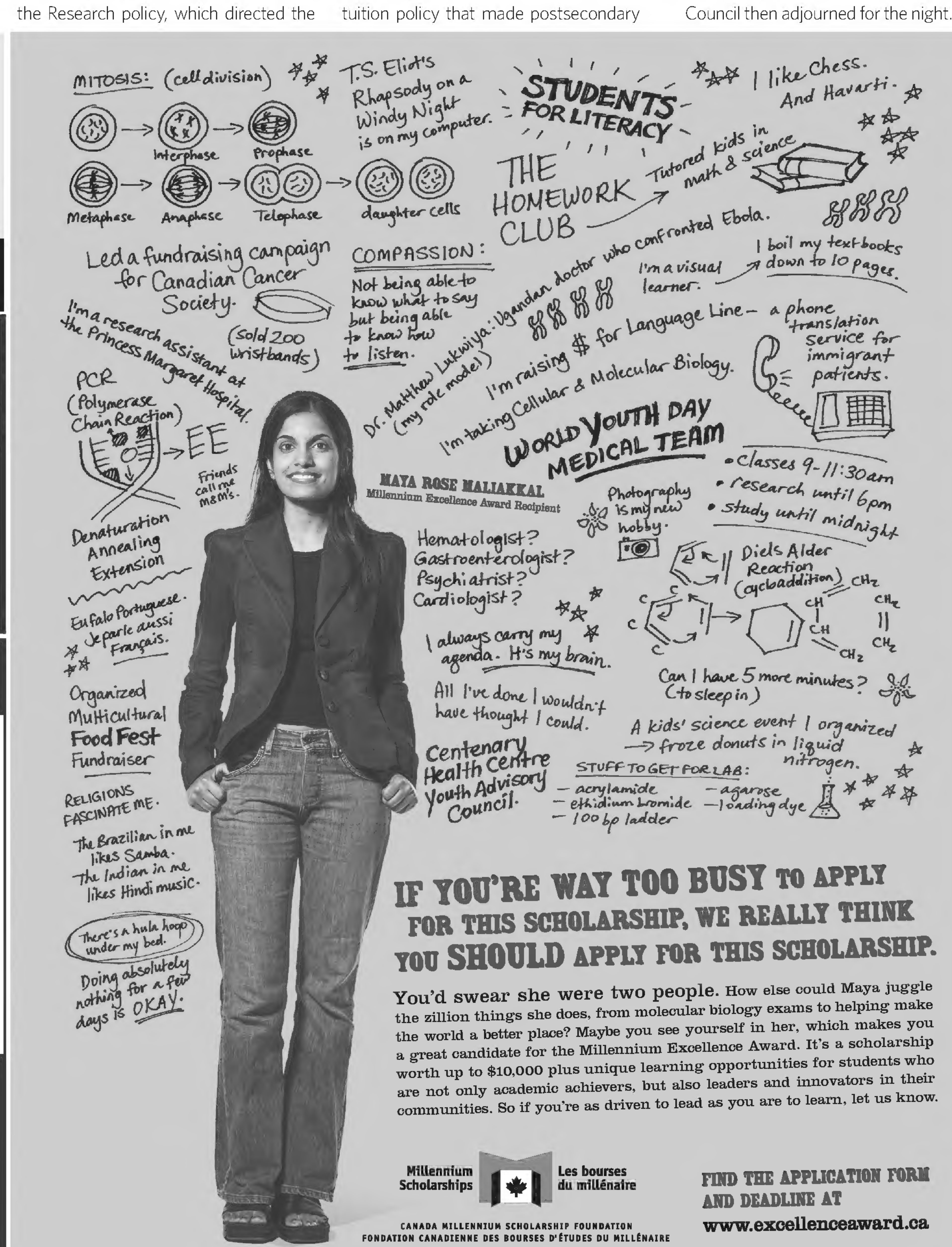
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E-learning a virtual reality

ADRIAN MA
CUP Ontario Bureau Chief

WATERLOO, ONT (CUP)—Ontario's colleges and universities struggle to find more space for students after a consecutive year of higher-than-expected enrolment rates, but administrators in California believe they may have found a solution—in cyberspace.

Charles Reed, Chancellor of the California State University system (comprised of 23 campuses and more than 400 000 students), says virtual worlds, like the currently popular Second Life, could solve the enrolment dilemma by turning students into telecommuters. Students would meet on campus once a week and then use classroom simulations to perform their coursework.

"It's not an either-or thing," said Reed at last February's Worldwide Education and Research Conference in San Fransisco. "We need the 'high touch,' but we need the high-tech at the same time."

Second Life is a 3-D virtual world where users can interact, build spaces and participate in a functioning economy. Universities and colleges around the world have jumped on the bandwagon, establishing virtual campuses, libraries and classrooms.

The University of British Columbia, LaSalle College in Québec, and Hamilton's Mohawk College and McMaster University, are a few of the Canadian schools using Second Life.

"It obviously is still growing, and the opportunities are limitless," said Lucy Sheung, a manager at McMaster's Faculty of Engineering, via e-mail.

A couple months ago, McMaster's engineering department unveiled the new Café Fireball, a Moroccan-style building that provides a space for virtual visitors to sip CG espresso and chat about news in engineering technology. There's also information about the school's academic programs available for viewing and a podcast listening station.

Sheung said that while some American schools are offering classes in Second Life, there are no similar plans at McMaster for the time being. But the potential for lecturing students in cyberspace definitely remains.

"It's a good tool to engage a tech-savvy young audience—very innovative and creative," Sheung said.

Mohawk College built a virtual library in Second Life to increase interaction with their students. Jason Lee, President of the Mohawk Students' Association, says utilizing the virtual world was an innovative move on the part of the school.

"We have to realize things are changing," Lee said, adding that using virtual classrooms could provide more opportunities for students, especially part-time and international students, who may find it difficult to be at the physical campus. Lee said it's just a matter of time until most Canadian schools embrace the virtual culture.

But, Darren Wershler-Henry, an assistant professor of communication studies at Wilfrid Laurier University, is skeptical how far universities can take it.

"If you're going to do something [like simulate a classroom online] you need a computer lab with instant, high-speed access," he said. "And the Second Life servers can, at maximum, handle 50–100 users."

Wershler-Henry also said there are myriad of policy issues the University would have to contend with, like protecting students' privacy on the Internet, and ethical questions about purchasing university space and establishing classes in a corporate-owned virtual world (Second Life is owned by privately held American company Linden Lab).

"Not only are you working in a kind of lawless anarchy, but there's the exploitation of laissez-faire capitalism," he said.

Instead, Wershler-Henry pointed to Arden—a virtual reality project spearheaded by IT professors at Indiana University. It's a synthetic world influenced by the plays of William Shakespeare, where academics and students meet together to interact and conduct research experiments. The funding is through the Indiana University and the MacArthur foundation. As it stands, the program isn't open to the public and may never develop into more than an academic petri dish.

"The question is, how do you come up with the correct mix of stuff? It'd be good for meeting with other students in classrooms around the world, and you can use virtual space as a kind of collective memory, but in terms of a straight substitution, that would never happen," Wershler-Henry said.

University of Winnipeg goes smoke-free

Smoking cessation information and programs will also be made available

SANDY KLOWAK
The *Uniter*

WINNIPEG (CUP)—As of 2 April, the University of Winnipeg is a smoke-free campus—every square metre of it.

The new policy, unanimously recommended by the University's Workplace Safety and Health Committee, stipulates that no smoking will be allowed anywhere on University property. The only exception will be Aboriginal smudging ceremonies, for which permission will be granted on a case-by-case basis.

The outdoor smoking ban has been on the agenda for over two years, explained Vice-President (Human Resources) Laurel Repski. The Workplace Safety and Health Committee—a group of students, support staff, faculty and management—has been the driving force behind the policy change.

"We think this really is a step in the right direction for the University," Repski said, adding that it will create a healthier environment for smokers and non-smokers alike.

According to Lisa Ferguson of the Canadian Council for Tobacco Control, even smoking outdoors can be hazardous. She quoted a study done on the University of Maryland campus in Baltimore, USA, which came to the conclusion that students or faculty passing through an outdoor cloud of smoke would encounter detectable levels at about seven metres from a smoker, and irritating levels at four metres.

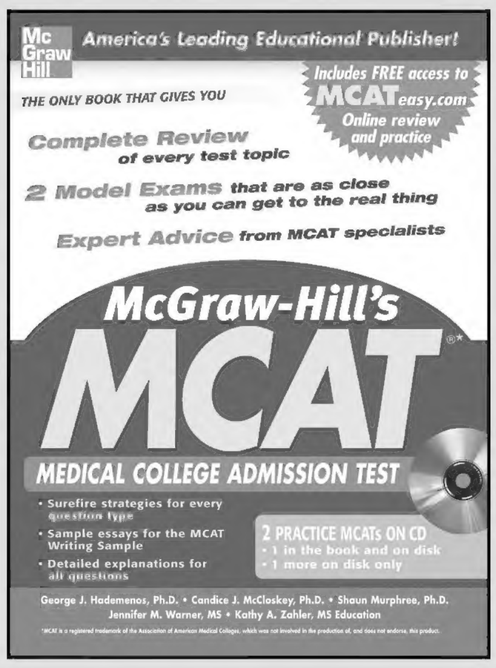
But, the hazy cloud often present at school entrances doesn't bother some.

"I'm not blowing smoke in the non-smokers' faces," argued U of W English major Vanessa Meekis, who said she doesn't see the need for the change.

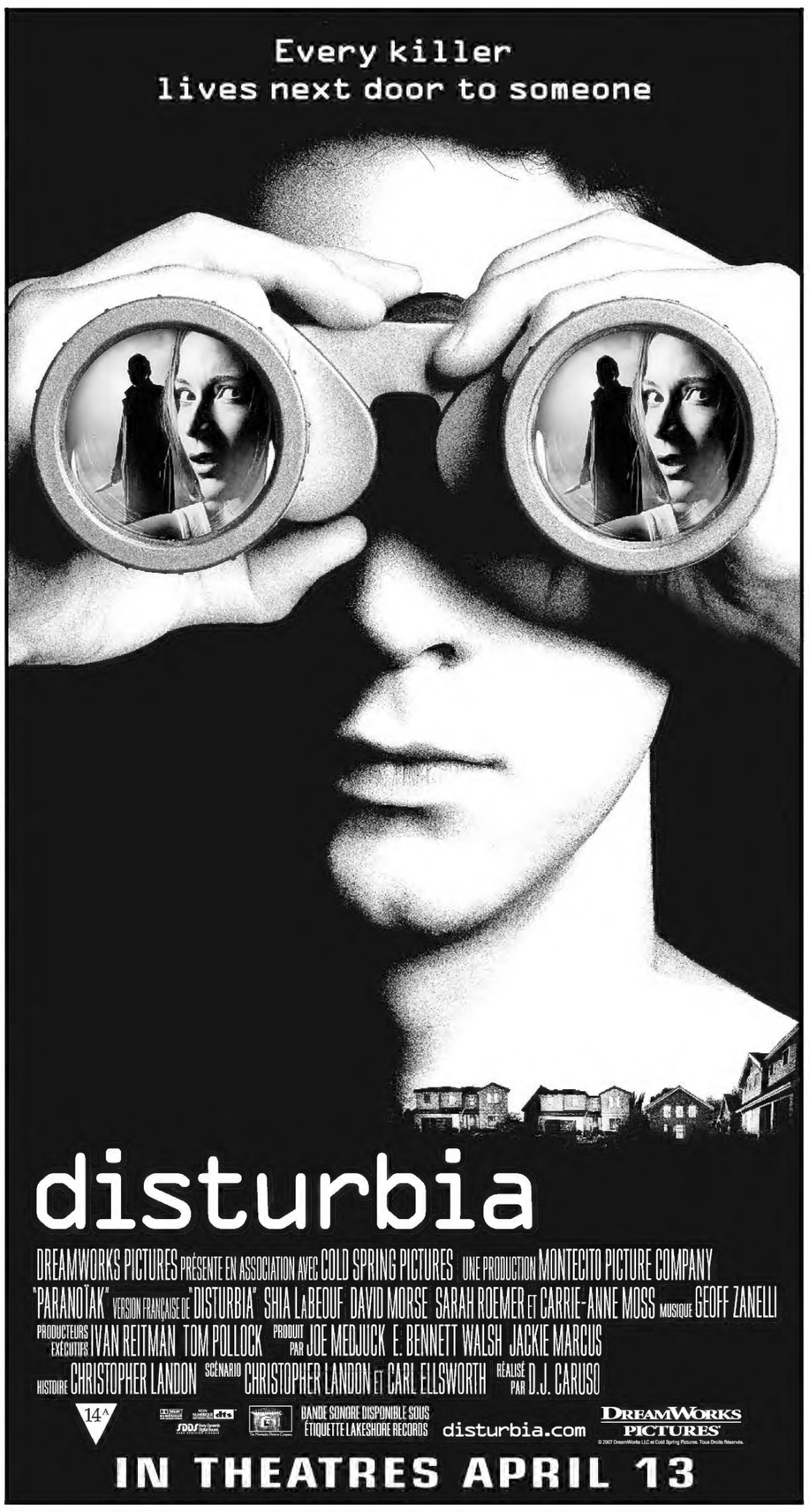
Meekis predicted that the ban will be ignored, and that smokers will still be seen outside campus doors, especially in the winter months.

But David Mauro, Director of Security & Community Ambassador Services, said there's always a period where people have to adjust to the new rules.

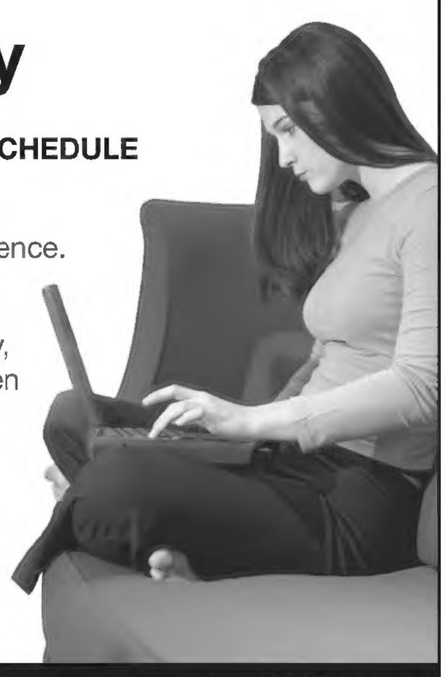
"We're not taking a heavy-handed approach. We'll just be asking for their co-operation," he said.

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Holocaust, Schmolocaust?

HISTORY IS FULL OF ASSHOLES. HITLER BEING ONE of the worst, though of course there were others.

The BBC reported on Monday that a number of British schools are planning to avoid teaching the Holocaust in history classes for fear of upsetting Muslim pupils. Other contentious subjects include the Crusades, the slave trade, the history of Israel and gravity.

According to a government-funded report, "Staff may wish to avoid causing offence or appearing insensitive to individuals or groups in their classes." It went on to say that, "In particular settings, teachers of history are unwilling to challenge highly contentious or charged versions of history in which pupils are steeped at home, in their community or in a place of worship."

Fair enough. Delving into the socio-political quagmire that is Israel-Palestine might be a bit much for 12-year-olds. But last time I checked Wikipedia, the Holocaust wasn't a contentious event. The facts are cut and dried, despite whatever Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad is currently spewing forth.

It should be patently obvious, but history books shouldn't be edited to assuage concerns of political correctness. The world is full of sexists, racists, misogynists and good old-fashioned bigots. It's a fact of life that there are and were a lot of douchebags around, many of them in prominent political positions. A lot of them did really stupid things. The historian's job is to dissect and critique past actions, especially those that are particularly heinous, as this will—hopefully—lead to people being nice to each other in the future.

Clearly there's space in our society for religious pluralism. But there's absolutely no room for acquiescing to anti-Semetic fringe groups that neither represent the values of the faith they espouse, nor understand history's basic bullet points.

To a large extent, public bodies are paralyzed every time they deal with an issue surrounding Islam. Every Muslim, it seems, is a big dude with a beard and some TNT strapped to his chest—don't argue with his opinion on the Holocaust, or he'll get a fatwa slapped on your ass.

But in reality this is just not the case, especially in Britain, where Muslims make up about 3.5 per cent of the population and are by-and-large progressive and peaceful in their piety.

This brings us to the British media's ominous typecasting. Discussions of the Holocaust and the Crusades were ebbed because they might conflict with the teachings at the local mosque, and generally because British Muslims might disagree. What the articles fail to mention, however, is that Holocaust denial is a far-from-mainstream view among Muslims, especially in Britain, which hosts some of the most liberal Muslims in the world. Only six per cent of the approximately two million Muslims in the UK are from the Middle East (most Holocaust denial has come from either Iran or Egypt's Muslim Brotherhood) and I'm sure relatively few of those are Holocaust deniers. This is what's particularly repulsive about the British media's coverage: in highlighting these preposterous and intensely reactionary policies, they neglect to point out the obvious fact that most Muslims aren't anti-Semitic bigots.

MATT FREHNER
Editor-in-Chief

That's a rap, people

AFTER SPENDING OUR LAST PRESS NIGHT reminiscing about the year that was, we've come to the conclusion that the 2006/07 *Gateway* would have been nothing without a some very rad people. To you, our readers, we say thank you. Your letters, comments, surveys and time mean a whole lot to us—even when critical—and we truly appreciate it. Most of all, our volunteers deserve mad props. It takes a village to raise a child, and it took all of them to make the *Gateway* what it is. For everyone who answered a late-night call for copy or took one too many assignments to ease someone else's stress, we'd like to give you a big newspapery hug. Take care and see you in May.

PAUL OWEN
Sports Editor



CONAL PIERSE

LETTERS

Logger Sports hacks away at misconceptions

The Forest Society is delighted with the article "Green groups cut into Logger Sports," (3 April). It has drawn attention to the forest industry and the Forestry program, although we are concerned with the degree of misrepresentation that has occurred. We feel the article failed to provide an accurate depiction of the intent of Logger Sports.

The Forest Society is composed of both undergraduate and graduate forestry students, who share a passion for the environment and the forest. Logger Sports was initiated by the students to exhibit the sense of community and camaraderie that exists in forestry, as well as [to] increase awareness and interest in the program.

Logger Sports was initiated with the mandate of educating people about the issues surrounding the forest industry and to promote the U of A forestry program. Logger Sports is not a reflection of current forest management practices but rather a representation of historical timber harvesting activities.

Contrary to the statements in the article, an education booth was set up and manned by both students and professors during Logger Sports to address current forestry issues. Forests in Alberta are regulated by the provincial government on behalf of the owners of the forests, the public. Albertans should be proud to know that two trees are planted for every tree that is harvested. The forest industry has made progressive changes to forest management practices based on concerns presented by environmental groups and have modified forestry practices based on forestry research. These changes go above and beyond the standards that are set out in the legislation and regulation by the provincial government. The forest industry is consumer-driven, an integral part of Alberta's economy and the backbone to many rural communities.

It is the hope of the Forest Society that people take an in-depth look at forestry and our program at the U of A. We believe that by choosing this career path we are able to make a positive difference in the environment. As a group we are proud to be stewards of the forests taking an active role in nurturing the land that belongs to all Canadians.

ATHENA ANDRITZ
Forest Business Management
JANINE TUTT
SARAH RAILTON
Forest Resource Management

Activism, not vandalism

Fish heads to SAKCoke! Why would you vandalize Coca Cola vending machines? Do you not realize that in your zealous and misdirected fight for union worker's rights in Colombia, you are simply causing frustration and an increased workload for the Edmonton union worker who has to clean it up?

Grow up. Vandalizing someone's property is hardly a suitable method for expressing yourself or your opinions.

SCOTT NICOL
Business III

Tanasiuk psyched out by scientologists

In her article on Scientology, Ms Tanasiuk omitted a few tidbits about the cult/religion that I'd like to point out (re: "Scientologists are the sane ones," 3 April). For instance, L Ron Hubbard wrote of psychiatrists that "crimes of extortion, mayhem and murder are done daily by these men in the name of 'practice' and 'treatment.'"

Scientologists also reject the (well supported) idea that mental illnesses can be caused by physical, rather than spiritual phenomena. As a scientist and a psychology student, I find these attitudes disturbing.

Of course I'm aspiring to be one of those evil psychologists who delight in 'extortion, mayhem and murder,' (not to mention causing rising crime rates). So don't listen to me: I'm fighting on the side of idiocy. And I probably eat babies.

BOB LATIMER
Science Psychology III

Letters to the editor should be dropped off at room 3-04 of the Students' Union Building or e-mailed to letters@gateway.ualberta.ca.

The Gateway *reserves the right to edit letters for length and clarity, and to refuse publication of any letter it deems racist, sexist, libellous or otherwise hateful in nature. The* Gateway *also reserves the right to publish letters online.*

Letters to the editor should be no longer than 350 words, and should include the author's name, program, year of study and student identification number to be considered for publication.

LETTERS FROM THE ARCHIVES

Teenage Wasteland needs tour guides

I would like to thank you for covering my talk on LSD in the 23 November *Gateway*. However, there is one important point that was inaccurately reported concerning my talk, and I feel that this should be corrected.

I definitely did not recommend that normal persons should simply take a "trip" with a "guide" who need not be an MD. Rather, I emphasized that the prescription of LSD and its administration should be under medical supervision.

The MD should be responsible for screening those who wish to take LSD and making sure that the conditions of its use are favourable. The "guide" need not be an MD, but he should be a sensitive and experienced person and he who has had LSD experience, but who should not take the drug while he is a "guide."

The great danger of the present restrictions on the use of LSD is that they very nearly make impossible the taking of LSD under these conditions.

I feel that this correction in your report of my talk is essential, since those taking LS D now should realize that the Restrictions on LSD oblige them to take additional risks.

KELLOG V WILSON, PHD
7 December, 1966



PHOTO ILLUSTRATION: KRYSTINA SULATYCKI

BUT YOU'RE WEARING A FUCKING UNICORN HAT! Some people just can't get things past their thick, imaginary skulls.

The art of argumentation



PAUL KNOECHEL

"The way I see it, God saw fit to give me precious little, so you'd think I'd hang onto this skill of mine. But I gotta admit, it's lonely at the top, and just because you win the *argument* that you should have sugary goods baked for you regularly doesn't mean it's going to happen."

Arguments, discussions, fights, debates; free exchanges of ideas—I've won them all. Hell, I've even got my fair share of "point-counterpoint" wins under my belt. Whatever you want to call them, it seems that when I square off intellectually with people in the realm of words, I'm raising my hands triumphantly when it's all over and done with. In fact, even squaring off with my girlfriend resulted in a year-long undefeated streak—pretty sweet, huh fellas?

The way I see it, God saw fit to give me precious little, so you'd think I'd hang onto this skill of mine. But I gotta admit, it's lonely at the top, and just because you win the *argument* that you should have sugary goods baked for you regularly doesn't mean it's going to happen. So as a year-end gift to all of you would-be interlocutors out there, I'm going to impart some of my considerable skill onto you. Who knows? Maybe we can square off in the pages of the *Gateway* next year.

First things first: avoid the equivalent of word suicide by using terms like "unnatural" or "traditional" in your argument. Any time someone brings up these arguments, they automatically lose—it's like Godwin's Law, or something. The only way they can even come close to salvaging something from this kind of massive blunder is admitting that they don't believe in medical science—not very natural—or interracial marriage, which at one point wasn't very traditional. And if you have the other party admitting to something like this, you've pretty much got it wrapped up anyway.

Second, your point is automatically stronger if you have something published that backs it up. To this end, it doesn't matter if you're trying to support the most ridiculous argument under the sun, as there's one sure-fire way to get something printed from way out in left field: the *Gateway*.

The minute something like "I win a lot of arguments" comes off the presses, it doesn't matter how absurd it seems—there's some credence to it now. And it's so easy to write an opinion piece too: it's like paint-by-numbers, only with words.

Step one: start with a punchy intro. Step two: mention exactly what it is that you're trying to convince people of. Step three: umm, well, if you get this far, you're pretty much set. For extra points, toss in some big words to sound smart, as well as some outdated slang to sound "with it."

Still losing? Apply some guerrilla tactics by switching the focus of your argument. That snobby Vancouver fan bragging how his team made the playoffs? Turn it around with a simple, "You know, I'd love to discuss this with you, but I don't want to give a team that's never won a Stanley Cup too much respect." Extra points if you bring up exactly how long they've been kicking around in the NHL.

Just don't be pulled into an argument about the present—stay securely rooted in the safety of the past. Make sure to keep the discussion on the ground where you're going to come out ahead, and make sure the other party doesn't pull you down.

So there you have it: my guaranteed steps to assured argumentative success. Practice them wisely, and guard this technique jealously. Because once the cat's out of the bag, before you know it your woman has turned around and convinced you that you should be baking that sugary goodness yourself. Whatever, it's more interesting that way—plus I look hot in an apron.



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